



For Immediate Release

Wendy Shalen: *Experiments in Landscape*

May 23 to June 17, 2017

New York, NY – Prince Street Gallery announces a solo exhibition of new works by Wendy Shalen, opening on May 23rd, 2017 through June 17th. **The artist will be present for an opening reception on Thursday, May 25 from 5 to 8:30 p.m., a Walk & Talk and reception on June 3, from 3 to 6 p.m., and on Saturday, May 27 from 11 to 6 p.m.** The gallery is located at 530 West 25th Street, between 10th and 11th Avenues.

This exhibition represents a new exploration by Ms. Shalen and a detour from her figurative drawings and paintings. It will feature several realistic landscape pieces in pen and ink, watercolor and pastel, and a new series of abstract handmade paper landscapes, experiments in pulp, wax encaustic and monotype. Conceptually, Ms. Shalen reveals her continued awareness of our need to protect the environment as shown in particular in the handmade paper work, *Earth Watch*, where her self-portrait is collaged above two tree knot lithographs that seem to act as sentries watching our actions on earth.

Shalen has used pigmented paper pulp as a painting medium to compose imagined large aerial landscapes. Smaller, plein-air close-up views are painted in watercolor, pastel, wax encaustic on panels, and as oil monotypes. Swatches of colored pulp on vinyl grids, inspired by the color swatches that precede a traditional watercolor painting, serve to strip away the narrative of traditional landscape painting, leaving only squares and rectangles of pure color value. The wax encaustic paintings are smaller 6" x 6" panels, which repeat the geometry of the swatches and, though painted in polished wax, are similar in feeling and color to the larger handmade paper landscapes. Both are done with loose, spontaneous, painterly strokes and show striking contrasts of texture and finish. Shalen has deconstructed the traditional landscape, leaving us with pure elements of shape, strong color and value.

Questions and press requests can be directed to WShalen@gmail.com. Additional information and images can be found at www.wendyshalen.com.

Wendy Shalen teaches drawing, painting and portfolio development at The Art Students League of New York, and offers self-portraiture and Central Park landscape workshops through the League. Her work is represented in several private collections and has been featured in London at Abbot & Holder, in New York at Allan Stone Gallery, Prince Street Gallery, The Salmagundi Club, The National Academy of Design and The National Arts Club, in Martha's Vineyard at Carol Craven Gallery, Gardner-Colby Gallery and Fielder & Fielder, and at The Katonah Museum of Art, The Housatonic Museum of Art, and Silvermine Guild Galleries. Ms. Shalen has taught figure and landscape drawing and painting to adults and teens for more than 35 years. A graduate of Brandeis University, she studied at the Art Students League in the late 1970s with Daniel Greene, Harvey Dinnerstein and Robert Beverly Hale, and privately with Burton Silverman. Ms. Shalen's studio is located in Waccabuc, New York.