

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BROKEN RULES: Betz Bernhard and Andrew Rubinstein**

at ZINC Contemporary

Opens February 1, 2018, 5-8pm, in conjunction with the First Thursday Art Walk.

Exhibit runs Feb 1 – March 10.

Contact: Laura Zeck, founder + curator – [laura@zincartobject.com](mailto:laura@zincartobject.com) – 206.617.7378



Betz Bernhard  
AMY AND ESTELLE SEE RED  
16 x 16"  
sewn fabric



Andrew Rubinstein  
MARRY ME  
36 x 36"  
oil on canvas

In February ZINC Contemporary pairs two Washington-based artists who utilize color and pattern to explore the dialogue that occurs where patterns and repeating lines meet. Repetition is a powerful tool in precise hands, and **Betz Bernhard** presents a new body of abstract fabric and collage that shows her considering the liminal spaces where fields of color and pattern sit shoulder-to-shoulder. Using textiles ranging from vintage kimono silk to hand-dyed organza, Bernhard creates flat sewn compositions that hew closer to abstract paintings than traditional quilting. Arranging her chosen components like pieces in a jigsaw puzzle, Bernhard moves her elements many times to find harmonious juxtaposition before finally tacking and sewing them down. Once the edges are sewn, she continues her line in an ever-contracting spiral towards the center of each segment of cloth, creating stitch-marked lines like fingerprints. The effect is reminiscent of seeing abutting farms from a plane window; each plot of land seeming legally separate and distinct, but in reality inextricably connected beneath by common soil and shared roots.

ZINC contemporary



Pioneer Square - Seattle | 119 Prefontaine Place South  
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Similarly, oil painter **Andrew Rubinstein** finds fertile ground in the places where patterns stop and start, where edges meet and lines almost intersect. He produces large canvases where blocks of parallel lines run straight and true as cornfields, then stop and suddenly yield their space when they encounter a block running the opposite way. Rubinstein creates these works instinctively, laying down lines and a system of rules for where those lines can go simultaneously. "A pattern will appear," he says, "and when that law is established, I'll break the law and move on to another pattern." By the end of his process, he has developed a semblance of organization to the composition that has arisen intuitively, an interplay of restraint that gives motion and vibrancy to the work.

**Betz Bernhard** received her B.F.A. from The Kansas City Art Institute and her M.F.A. from the University of Washington, where she studied ceramic sculpture. She has worked with many mediums including ceramics, concrete, mosaics, and printmaking. Her most recent work features fabric collages.

**Andrew Rubinstein** has been surrounded by art all his life, but discovered painting for himself late in college, before going on to the School of Art Institute of Chicago for graduate school. He often develops a rule or law in his painting to govern the emergence of pattern. Once a law is established, he breaks the law and moves on to another pattern.

More about ZINC contemporary:

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Hours: Wednesday - Saturday 11 – 5pm and by appointment

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Short Form:

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Two Washington artists explore the interplay between dense blocks of abstract patterns and repeating lines, finding motion, dialogue and vibrant color in places where they meet. Betz Bernhard works in fabric collage and Andrew Rubinstein paints in oil on canvas.