

John Zurier
Stars Without Distance

September 27 – November 11, 2017



Far (For Hreinn Friðfinnsson), 2016

Peter Blum is pleased to announce an exhibition of new paintings by **John Zurier** titled *Stars Without Distance*. This will be the first show in the new downtown location at **176 Grand Street**, New York. There will be an opening reception on Wednesday, September 27, from 6 to 8 p.m. The exhibition runs through November 11.

John Zurier's paintings meld abstraction with a visceral sense of being in the world. Over the past decade, Zurier's time spent in Iceland has become a source and confirmation for the central concerns of his work: color, surface, light, and air. The paintings are both concrete and suggestive—recalling qualities of weather and atmospheric effects, while simultaneously moving inward towards a condition of reverie, contemplation, and calm.

The surfaces of the paintings show evidence of their earlier states, with previous marks being revealed or scraped away, embedded in the weave of the canvas like memories of what was there before. Dots, dashes, and stray lines mark the folds of the linen—on the one hand reinforcing the materiality and parameters of the support, and on the other, implying an undefined ephemeral space. The subtle pitches and resonances within each surface heighten the awareness of memory, place, time, and sensation. In this sense the paintings materialize as an event that activates anew with each viewer.

John Zurier's work grounds us in the enormity and beauty of natural forces. In a time when technology integrates further and further with how we process and interact with the world, these paintings reconnect to a primal condition of feeling.

John Zurier was born in Santa Monica, CA, in 1956 and lives in Berkeley, CA. He received his MFA in painting from the University of California, Berkeley. Recent museum exhibitions include: New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe, NM (2016); Colby Museum of Art, Waterville, ME (2015), Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA (2014). He has also exhibited at the 30th São Paulo Biennial, Brazil (2012), California Biennial, Orange County Museum of Art, CA (2010), 7th Gwangju Biennale, South Korea (2008), New Langton Arts, San Francisco, CA (2006), Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, England (2003), and the Whitney Biennial, NY (2002). In 2010 he was awarded the prestigious John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship.

For additional information and photographic material please contact **David Blum** or **Vlad Smolkin** at art@peterblumgallery.com,
Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10am-6pm; Saturday, 11am-6pm.