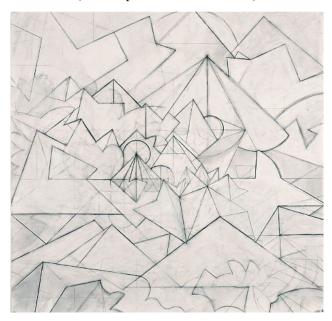
PARABOLA

{Where Spiritual Traditions Meet}



Tracy Cochran, Parabola Editor Blogs

February 15, 2011

Celia Gerard

Campo, 2 0 1 0 charcoal, graphite, and casein on paper 38 x 38 inches 43 x 43 inches framed From Sears Peyton Gallery

"...In the afternoon, full of the sense that there was everything to be gained by leaving my winter-imposed solitude and seeking out the work of others—and work by living humans, not museum pieces—I drove down to Manhattan. Braving the icy wind off the Hudson and the sense that I don't know anything about art, I walked around the art galleries of Chelsea. I came to a full stop at the show "Regions of Unlikeness" by the artist Celia Gerard at the Sears Peyton Gallery. Gerard's abstract, geometical works in black and white have the power of making a viewer stay. "It's amazing how they unfold," said my friend, and I agreed. The triangles, spheres, and cones open into landscapes and unknown worlds in deep space. What is really uncanny about the works is that they unfold the viewer, waking up the energies in the body and opening the mind and heart. I felt like I could see and feel the ongoing search in the work, and it had the effect of calling to search along with the artist. Gerard's work woke me up, yet made me feel very concentrated and still, like looking inside a vast crystal or up at a mountain, or inside myself. It gave me a feeling of nostalgia for places I have never travelled, a longing for a quality or state that is still unknown yet essential...home.

"I want to unfold/ I don't want to stay folded anywhere/ Because where I am folded,/ There I am a lie...." These lines by Rilke echoed through my head as I drove home from Manhattan last night, and this morning when I woke."

-Tracy Cochran "Regions of Unlikeness" @The Editors blog

A parabola is one of the most dynamic forms in nature. It is the curve of a bowl, the path of a ball soaring upward and down to earth again. The founder of this magazine decided it was a good name for a journal devoted to the search for meaning, which often goes outward, then back home again along a different path. More than thirty-five years later, *Parabola* does what other magazines and media cannot. Four times a year, we explore one of the timeless themes of human existence, drawing on wisdom from the world's traditions, ways, and art. At *Parabola*, we further understanding, peace, and tolerance one reader at a time.

PARABOLA is a not-for-profit organization devoted to the dissemination and exploration of materials relating to the myths, symbols, rituals, and art of the world's religious and cultural traditions.