



## Letter from Atlanta

by Cathy Byrd

Two vibrant painting exhibitions are on view through Mar. 12: "Post-Hypnotic" at **Atlanta College of Art Gallery** and "Hypnotic Post: Atlanta Abstraction Now" at the **Swan Coach House Gallery**. "Post-Hypnotic" features a roster of 27 neo-Op abstractionists (**Mark Dagley, Peter Halley, Jim Issermann, Sarah Morris, Philip Taaffe, Fred Tomaselli**) curated by former East Village art dealer **Barry Blinderman**, now-director of the **Illinois State University Galleries** at Normal, Ill. The gallery walls are filled to bursting, with splashes and spatters of paint, wavering lines, endless stripes, explosions of dots, pulsating patterns, vibrating graphic interludes and subverted color theories.

Artists in both shows enjoy the pleasure of non-objective art-making while sometimes referring to very real world objects, situations and experiences. The Swan Coach exhibition catches Atlanta area painters engaged in abstract color play. There are resemblances among a number of the color works in "Post-Hypnotic" and "Hypnotic-Post." **Karen Davie's** voluptuous curved stripes meet their sensual match in **Angela Wilcock's** slippery Green Line. **Judy Ledgerwood's** yellow flecked color fields resonate with **Teresa Bramlette's** impressionist daubs. **Mark Dagley's** *Primary Color Vortex* echoes in a dot painting by **Jon Coffelt**. **Scott Ingram** and **Michelle Grabner** both use found objects as stencils for their repeating patterns.

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