

BRIDGETTE MAYER GALLERY



ARTS AND CULTURE > ART

November First Friday



Structuring Desire/Desiring Structure

Charles Burwell's colorful, heavily patterned abstract paintings are all about relationships. While it's not clearly spelled out, we're talking every kind—interpersonal, historical, biological, technological and formal artistic relationships—all writ large in the interplay of color and shape, with hard-edged lines and biomorphic forms circled by sweeping lasso-like arcs. Burwell's oil paintings are dreamy and meditative, built up layer by layer freehand and with stencils and templates. From cool mint green to acid yellow ochre, Burwell's colors surprise.

Simultaneously psychedelic and harmonious, the works reveal and revel in their depths, which suggest neverending bright-hued conversations—not arguments—in which there's a lot of echo and answer, like married couples finishing each other's sentences. To use

another metaphor—as with jazz, there are grounding underlying rhythms, like the recurring stripes and cloverleaf shapes, and risky solo moments, with swooping lines demanding attention. Nine new works are on display at Bridgette Mayer this month; go. (*Roberta Fallon*)

Fri., Nov. 5.

6pm.

Through Dec. 17.

Bridgette Mayer Gallery,

709 Walnut St.

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bridgettemayergallery.com