

Altered Matter x 2

Brenda Cirioni & Iris Osterman

April 3 – 28, 2019

First Friday Reception: Friday, April 5, 2019 | 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

“Sand” dance installation/performance: April 26 and 27 | 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

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Brenda Cirioni, *Mazama II*



Iris Osterman, *Meteor Shower*

BOSTON, MA – Beginning April 3rd, Fountain Street gallery will be exhibiting “Altered Matter x 2” featuring paintings by [Brenda Cirioni](#) and [Iris Osterman](#). From the literal to the abstract, Cirioni and Osterman infuse emotion and physicality into their work. Cirioni’s instinctive abstractions use saturated color and energetic marks to express the inner workings of her mind and spirit. Osterman paints scenes that describe imaginary places with a strong graphic line and an evocative, earthy palette, creating fractured landscapes that often conjure dreamlike tableaux. These two artists render in paint their reactions to their world, tearing down and building up the surfaces of their canvases until their respective visions are achieved.

Cirioni works intuitively, stating “I make a mark, a gesture, a shape which leads to another and another. Painting is unpredictable. It unfolds slowly, leading me this way and that. I keep working, making subtle or drastic changes until the painting reaches resolution. I find it difficult and exhilarating to paint this way.”

“No matter how hard we try, painting is never just about painting”, Osterman says. Her paintings are a mix of landscape and narrative. Like Cirioni, she depends on intuition and a love of the materials to take her work from the elemental to the transformative.

Brenda Cirioni’s new abstract work is a departure from her previous paintings that were rooted in landscape. Layers, textures, marks and color remain key to her process. Cirioni layers her mixed media paintings by scribbling, drawing and painting; she then scrapes and sands the surface, revealing what’s been obscured. The resultant works

are fraught with emotional expressions. Cirioni's newest work is inspired by the seismic eruption 7000 years ago of Mt. Mazama that created Crater Lake.

Cirioni received her education from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, MA. Her work was recently part of *Beyond Structure: Representations of the American Barn*, a traveling Brigham Young University exhibition. She's exhibited in Attleboro Arts Museum, Danforth Museum, deCordova Museum, Fitchburg Museum and the Berkshire Museum. Her work can be seen in numerous galleries throughout New England, and is included in numerous corporate and private collections throughout the country. She works from her studio at Artspace in Maynard, MA, and is a Core Member at Fountain Street Gallery.

Iris Osterman balances perceptions of landscape with memory, conveying a dynamic narration. Osterman's typical approach to painting involves working at an arm's distance, primarily with oil paint. Up until recently, Osterman used observed landscape as the basis of her work. In this new series, she turns inward, using the landscape of her imaginings to produce work that is sometimes unsettling, fractured or suggestive.

Osterman has a background in painting, sculpture, etching, and printmaking and earned her MFA from the American University, D.C., after earning her BFA from Boston University, MA. She has lectured at Wheelock College, MA, University of Colorado, and South Shore Art Center, MA, and has exhibited nationally, including at the Bowery Gallery, NYC, Gallery New Mexico, NM, Cooperstown Art Association, NY, Zullo Gallery, MA, and Cambridge Art Association, MA. She works from her studio in Framingham, MA, and is a Core Member at Fountain Street Gallery.

"Altered Matter x 2" will run from April 3 through 28, 2019. The Gallery is located at 460c Harrison Ave. #2, Boston, MA and is open Wednesday through Sunday from 12 to 6pm, or by appointment.

Schedule of events:

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Image information: Brenda Cirioni, *Mazama II*, mixed media, 24" x 24"
Iris Osterman, *Meteor Shower*, oil on canvas, 42" x 52"

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Fountain Street, a resource for artists, art-lovers and collectors, is a contemporary gallery in Boston, MA that exhibits the artwork of twenty-eight emerging and mid-career artists.

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GALLERY HOURS Wed-Sun, 12-6 and by appointment (617) 292-4900
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