

Art opening reception: Kristen Cliburn: The Invisible Mountain

In this series, Kristen Cliburn explores the subtle interaction of color, linking memory to experience. These paintings are the result of visiting Mont Sainte-Victoire in Southern France, the mountain famously painted by Paul Cezanne.

In contrast to Cezanne's approach to painting directly from observation, this sequential body of work is developed from memory. Diverging from the original experience, the paintings isolate and filter memory into subtly shifting surfaces of pure color as a way to revive the perceptual experience of the mountain, while creating an entirely new experience within the painting that is both in flux and static.

Just as Cezanne returned to this mountain again and again, each painting in The Invisible Mountain series reconstructs the one before, evolving from itself into something new. As sequence, as memory, as color, as idea, an exercise or game, this return to site repeats and then steps into the unknown, where the unknown relies on memory of place and becomes the basis of the next painting.

Kristen Cliburn earned an MFA in painting at the University of Houston. She lives and works in Houston.

