

Making Waves: Deanna Lee

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By Jill Conner — NY Arts Examiner



Deanna Lee. *Hair-brained*. 2011. Acrylic on paper. 59" x 35".
Courtesy of the Artist and RHV Fine Art.

RHV Fine Art in Park Slope presents a new selection of paintings and drawings by Brooklyn-based artist Deanna Lee. Lee works in acrylic and explores the endless movement of line using acrylic paint. By building layers, shapes and pockets of illusion, the artist uses details to build organic forms that reference aquatic environments, sea creatures and even hair.

Yellow Drift (2011) for instance, features winding chords of seaweed-like forms that interlace along the composition's frame while a blast of yellow moves across the center accompanied by thin blue lines. *A-mare* and *Dov'e* both from 2011 capture vertical and horizontal depth through the winding direction of line. Lee's mastery of depth within the picture plane allow these mysterious forms and spaces to feel real, yet unidentified. An older work titled *Hairpiece Wave* (2010) pays homage to *The Great Wave Off Kanagawa* (1829-32) by Katsushika Hokusai.

As a descendent of parents who emigrated from China and Taiwan, Lee is influenced by the art history of China, Japan and Tibet. The artist's bias of content over form reveals the strong influence of the calligraphic line in her process. The artist's further combination of colors with form reveal an array of subjective experiences that are nothing short of delight.

Deanna Lee is on view at RHV Fine Art from March 1 to April 1, 2012.