Thomas Nozkowski

Thomas Nozkowski (b. 1944, Teaneck, New Jersey; d. 2019, New York) was recognized for his richly colored and intimately scaled abstract paintings and drawings that push the limits of visual language. Nozkowski graduated from Cooper Union in 1967, where he studied with Robert Gwathmey and Bauhaus-trained Hannes Beckmann. During the mid-1970s, two important decisions guided his work: he resolved to paint from personal experience and chose to work on a small scale. By 1974, he embraced easel painting, working on 16-by-20-inch prepared canvas boards, distinguishing his practice from the heroic scale and bravado of his Abstract Expressionist predecessors. He soon found that a smaller format enacted a formal freedom in his process-oriented practice that had otherwise been exhausted with large surfaces.

Works by Nozkowski have been featured in over 300 group exhibitions, including *Think with the Senses, Feel with the Mind – Art in the Present Tense*, curated by Robert Storr at the Italian Pavilion at the Venice Biennale (2007), as well as group exhibitions at The Museum of Modern Art, New York (2012), Royal Academy of Arts, London (2012), The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (2016), Kingsborough Art Museum, Brooklyn (2017), and University of Kentucky Art Museum, Lexington (2017). He has been the subject of over eighty solo exhibitions, including *Subject to Change* at the Ludwig Museum, Koblenz, Germany (2007); *Paintings*, a survey at Fisher Landau Center, Long Island City, New York (2008); a retrospective at the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa (2009); *Touchstones* at University of Kentucky Art Museum, Lexington (2017); and *Paintings* at Art Omi, Ghent, New York (2018), among others. He held the position of Professor of Fine Art, and later as Visiting Professor Emeritus, at the Mason Gross School of the Arts of Rutgers University, New Jersey, from 2000 to 2018.