

PREVIEW: NEW HAMPSHIRE

## ***Double Image* with Frankie Brackley Tolman and L.A. Dierker**

Jaffrey Civic Center, Jaffrey, NH • [jaffreyciviccenter.com](http://jaffreyciviccenter.com) • September 29 – November 4, 2023

Imagine a room of paintings whose themes, colors, and forms inspired the intertwining lines of a modern woodwind quartet ringing in the gallery. Such will be the experience in “*Double Image*,” a collaborative show between New Hampshire painter Frankie Brackley Tolman and composer L.A. Dierker. Their themes are based in the forests, flora, and streams around their rural New Hampshire homes.

*Changing Weather* is the musical counterpart to a painting of the same title. Low strings form a somber, mysterious mood that is echoed in the deep purples and pinks of the painting. Streaks of yellow close to the horizon echo the lighter violins in the latter part of the piece. The solitary cello at the end repeats until it fades, like the horizontal bands of color in the moody painting. Sometimes the surfaces of the paintings are thin, and this works to echo the layering of the color as well as the music.

*I'd rather be under the sea* is a wonderful, whimsical, musical coun-



Above, from left: Frankie Brackley Tolman, *Changing Weather*, 2020, acrylic/canvas, 36 x 36". Courtesy Vetter/Zurich collection. L.A. Dierker. Photo: Lori Pedrick.



terpart to the visual *I'd like to be under the sea*. The two lines of light, staccato xylophone echo the bouncing green seaweed, brown fish, and white bubbles in the water. Influences from Stravinsky and other early musical modernists echo well the simplification, abstraction, and shifting colors from Tolman's paintings. This bouncing feeling from a woodwind quartet is also evident in Dierker's *Staccatissimo* and Tolman's *Senescent Ferns*.

In the gallery, one alcove will show a continuous loop of a film created by Dierker from her music and Tolman's paintings. Here there is more layering as Dierker moves in and out of the paintings, with pertinent echoing of overlapping notes. In one section, there is a stream running under the paintings as well as the soundtrack, yet you must look carefully.

Three additional rooms will be filled with works by Tolman. Arrive to the gallery with ear buds and a smart phone to best access the forest sounds. — *Susan Wadsworth*