

ALEXANDRE GALLERY

For immediate release – January 15, 2011

Lois Dodd

SHADOWS: RECENT PAINTINGS

February 3 through March 12, 2011

Opening Reception for the artist Thursday, February 3, from 5 to 7 pm

The gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of recent paintings by Lois Dodd that focus on the motif of shadows. This show will include thirty-five paintings, both small-scale panel pieces and larger-scaled works on linen, completed during the past five years in which shadows and their semi-abstract patterns are a dominant element in the compositions. For over fifty years Dodd, a longtime figure on the New York scene, has painted her immediate everyday surroundings at the places she has chosen to live and work — the Lower East Side, rural Mid-Coast Maine, and the Delaware Water Gap.

With titles such as *House at Dusk* (2008), *Blair Pond at Sunset* (2008), and *Shadow of Painter Painting “September Light”* (2009) Dodd paints her subjects with an unsentimental, no-nonsense directness grounded in observation and simplification. Writing in a 2003 review of the gallery’s first Dodd show, the critic Grace Glueck said, “translating the commonplace into art has long been the province of Lois Dodd . . . who celebrates the richness of everyday life . . . Simple as the work seems, it touches the transcendental.” Dodd’s colleague the painter-critic Robert Berling has said, “One feels that she downplays detailed literal description not out of some modernist imperative, but as the Shaker hymn puts it, because she has ‘a gift to be simple’ and with that temperamental dispensation, ‘a gift to be free.’ She knows just when to stop – a sure sign of grace.” Featured will be two new paintings in which the subject is Dodd’s own shadow on the grass, painting with an easel and artist’s materials, on a bright summer day.

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Lois Dodd (b. 1927) studied at The Cooper Union in the late 1940s. In 1952 she was one of the five founding members of the legendary Tanager Gallery, the first artist run cooperative gallery in New York. Dodd is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and of the National Academy of Design. In 1992 she retired from teaching at Brooklyn College. Since 1954 her work has been the subject of over 50 one-person exhibitions. This show marks her eighth at the gallery. In May 2012 her work will be the subject of a traveling retrospective exhibition to be organized by the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City.

Alexandre Gallery is located in the Fuller Building at 41 East 57th Street on the 13th Floor. In addition to Dodd, the gallery represents artists including Gregory Amenoff, Will Barnet, Brett Bigbee, Anne Harris, Loren MacIver (estate), Tom Uttech and Neil Welliver. The gallery also specializes in work by the first generation American modernists with particular emphasis on the Stieglitz Group, including Arthur Dove, Marsden Hartley, John Marin and Georgia O'Keeffe.

Gallery hours are Tuesdays – Fridays from 10 to 5:30, and Saturdays from 11 to 5.

**For further information or images contact Allison Hester at 212-755-2828
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