



Weber and Thompson at Margaret Thatcher Projects

By Mary Hrbacek January – February , 2008

Minimalist artists **Peter Weber** and **Bill Thompson** create accessible art by deceptively simple means. Both artists have a singularly controlled vision defined by visually compelling abstract elements that send an immediate message. There is nothing in the art of either left to chance. That the works are well crafted and fully resolved adds to their soothing yet stimulating effect; the finish alone inspires admiration. As one observes each piece, the inventive elaboration involved in the choices made by each artist illuminates the scope and uniqueness of his inspired creative endeavor.



Bill Thompson, *Joyride*, 2007, Acrylic urethane on epoxy, 24 x 22 x 2 inches

...Although Bill Thompson's works are defined as paintings, they are so pure in color and so volumetric in shape that they can be read as minimalist wall sculptures. Executed in single hues, the glossy finishes reflect the surrounding environment, bringing it into the scope of the artwork, thereby altering its meaning. The works function as mirrors that retain their linear dimensions while expanding their visual content. By this means, weather conditions and the light that defines the time of day converge on each form and color within the convex or concave, undulating or straight, hard-edged geometric, or organic shapes. Within a relatively small scale, vast works are expertly created. The urethane surfaces recall the slick car-bodies and smooth finishes of surfboards or skies made in the 1960's era.

These works have the luscious shine and saturated clear colors found in assorted hard candy. In this way they appeal especially to the sense of taste. The humps and bumps to be found in the organic pieces suggest unseen objects or bodies trapped beneath

smooth outward coverings. They are playful and toy-like in appearance, compelling and effectively realized.

By bringing together two artists who create works with limited materials that reap unlimited possibilities, this show offers the visual proof that there is no end to the artistic advances alert art practitioners are capable of conceiving. By contrasting minimal, organic, colorful, volumetric paintings with more reserved wall works of beauty and complexity, the express differences accentuate the unique qualities of each body of work. The show provides the viewer with an ideal opportunity to experience pure visual poetry that is modern, rhythmic, and intelligent.