

Land Changes

Deborah Zisko

East Gallery

February 11 – April 22, 2023



Directors Statement:

In a successful painting, everything is integral – all the parts belong to the whole. If you remove an aspect or element, you are removing its wholeness.
- Richard Diebenkorn

Lively colorful abstract paintings have a connection to nature and the Midwestern landscape. Deborah Zisko has a beautiful ability to capture the changing seasons through the lens of fields of color, shape, and line. Over the years, Deborah has slowly pulled away from pictorial landscapes to explore a more direct and intuitive painting style. Her new paintings have their roots in nature, but she can expand on her experience and feelings to create a personal reflection on the landscape.

Deborah uses all this information and memory to start a painting. She then begins a conversation with the painted surface, allowing the painting to dictate the next mark or color placement. Her paintings are tectonic plates of color, line, and shape that remove one element, and the whole image falls apart. Deborah’s paintings feel like they were created instantly, masterfully painted as an immediate image.

Suppose one were to connect with artists from history if they feel that, her work reflects the creations of Helen Frankenthaler, Hans Hofmann, Richard Diebenkorn, and Lee Krasner. The significant difference between the paintings of these modern masters and Deborah’s work is her intimate connection to the Iowa landscape, uniquely Midwestern.