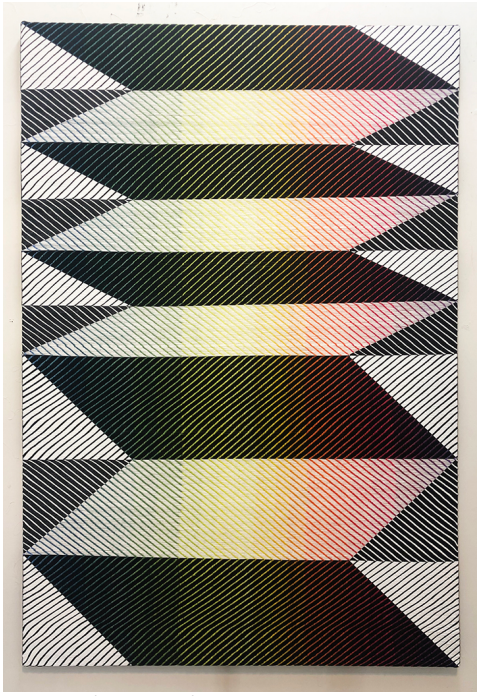
RONCHINI

Samantha Bittman
3 March – 30 April 2021



Samantha Bittman, Untitled (2020 034), 2020, acrylic on hand-woven textile, 20 x 20 in

Ronchini Gallery is proud to present our second solo exhibition of all new works by the American artist Samantha Bittman. The exhibition features twelve new wall based works which are made in Bittman's signature style, a brilliant amalgamation of weaving and painting.

With an interest in optics, Bittman's work is physically bound by the parameter of the 12- harness floor loom. Taking inspiration from painters such as Agnes Martin, Bridget Riley, Frank Stella, and Sol Lewitt, as well as the fiber artists such as Sheila Hicks and Anni Albers, Bittman's works create visual phenomena, by using basic shapes, symmetrical layouts, and pared down colour pallets.

Combining the often disparate worlds of high end fine art and traditional 'craft' Bittman's works are imbued with the physical process of making them. She starts by weaving, by hand, a graphically driven cloth. Once woven, the cloth is stretched around traditional canvas stretcher bars and augmented with acrylic paint in selected areas. The painted portions are guided by the weaving itself, taking the pattern complexity one step further.

This new selection of paintings, made specifically for Ronchini, and created within the confines of the COVID-19 pandemic, continues the artist's interest in the ephemeral idea of prism. A reflection of light that creates a visual yet ethereal rainbow, which when viewed amongst the context of the present is seen as a sign of hope, possibilities and escapism. This subtle rainbow / prism refraction is combined with the geometric and organic shape of Bittman's unique cloth and other painted shapes to sensational effect.

About the artist
(b.1982, Chicago, USA) lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.
Bittman's education includes: Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, USA (2011); M.F.A, Painting and Drawing, School of the Arts Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA (2010); and B.F.A., Textiles, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, USA (2004).

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Recent exhibitions include: 1st Site The Museum of Art and Design, New York (solo) (2018); Morgan Lehman Gallery, New York, USA (2017); Andrew Rafacz Gallery, Chicago, USA (2016); Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, USA (2015); Longhouse Projects, New York, USA (2014); and Thomas Robertello Gallery, Chicago, USA (2011).

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Dates: 3 March – 30 April 2021
Location: 22 Dering Street, London, W1S 1AN
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Website: www.ronchinigallery.com

Social Media
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