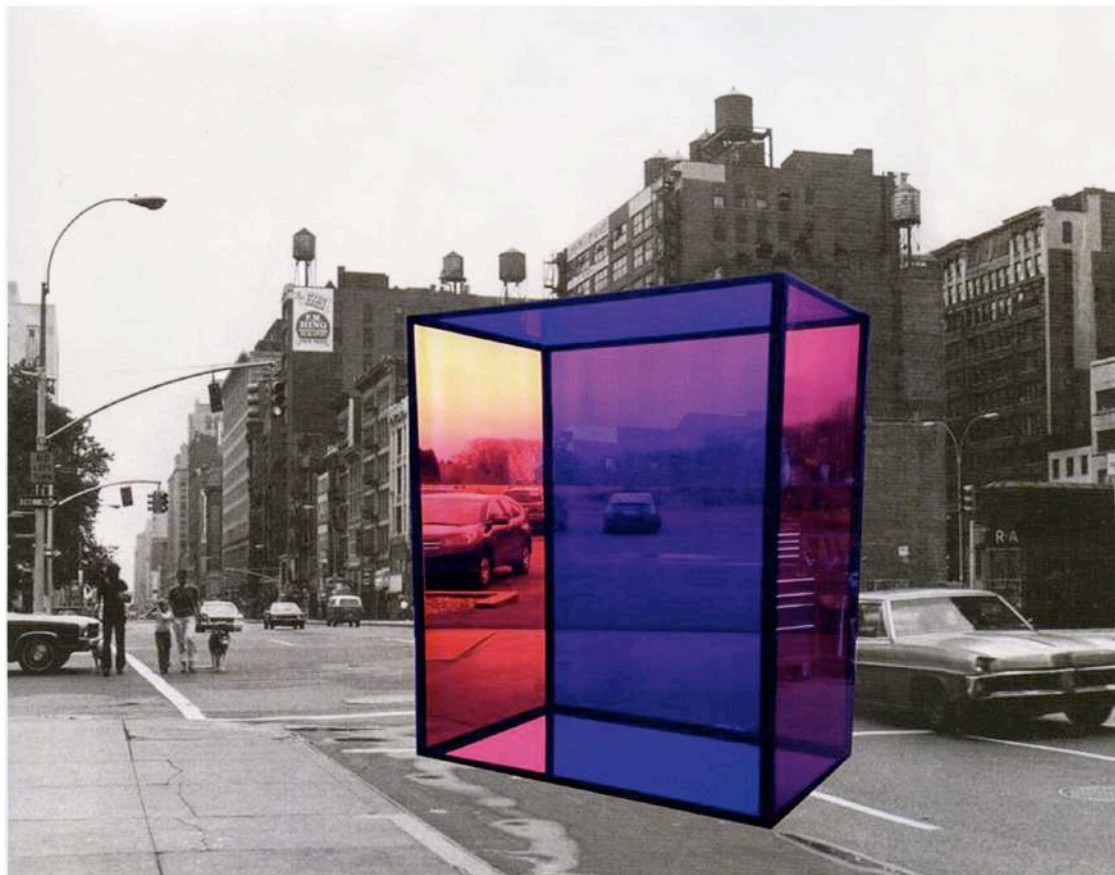


MODERN PAINTERS

Sarah Braman: Bio Pic

Modern Painters

September 2014



Sarah Braman

The story behind an artwork, in the artist's own words

THIS IS AN EARLY SKETCH of a piece I'm making for a show of outdoor sculpture, "Broadway Morey Boogie," opening in New York this month. The exhibition is being put together by Max Levai and Pascal Spengemann through the Marlborough Chelsea gallery and will run the length of the Broadway Malls, a landscaped median stretching from Columbus Circle at 59th Street to 167th Street. In the past I have made transparent sculptures with Plexiglas, but in order for them to exist outdoors they need to be glazed. This sculpture is made from annealed, laminated glass and stainless steel. The range of hues produced by the sun's interaction with the glass is vast. I am still in that phase of making where I am crazy about the possibility of the spectrum of colors, and the materiality of the glass in general. I hope that when people approach the piece, the color and material of the sculpture will absorb them.

When I was five and my brother was seven, we lived in a small town in Massachusetts. We used to walk to the Sunday matinee

by ourselves. *The Blob* (1958) made a really big impression on me. The way the creature just folded everyone and everything into itself, sort of like a black hole or a time tunnel. As horrifying as it was, there was also something thrilling about being overtaken by this enormous, faceless being. I love that feeling of looking at art where I get brought to a place of complete surrender. Sometimes it is a mental surrender, but it can be physical or spiritual as well. What if the sculpture got bigger and bigger whenever it ingested a person's spirit? I believe that a sculpture can stop time, or possibly stretch it. I want this sculpture to catch people and stretch out the moment. I want people to have a physical experience but also a psychic or spiritual one. I know that may be asking way too much, but I can't help hoping for it. MP

Braman's work will be on view in New York along the Broadway Malls beginning this month.