

Anglim Gilbert Gallery



Canan Tolon, *Untitled 5.1*, 2017, Oil on Canvas, 76 x 119 in.

# Canan Tolon

## *Where We Were*

February 15 - March 10, 2018

Reception: Saturday, February 17, 4 - 7 pm

Anglim Gilbert Gallery at Minnesota Street Project  
1275 Minnesota Street, San Francisco, CA 94107  
Tel: 415.433.2710 | Gallery Hours: Tues-Sat 11-6  
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**Anglim Gilbert Gallery** is pleased to present *Where Were We*, an exhibition of paintings by **Canan Tolon**.

Referring to the point in which we lose our train of thought, *Where Were We* explores the moment we pause to mentally pivot toward the past in an attempt to reposition ourselves in time and place. It is a moment to find our bearings and regain or recreate perspective. We wonder, where were we before the picture broke into a cacophony of pieces, scattering our thoughts and making us momentarily amnesic?

**Canan Tolon** captures this instant in her abstract works, composing each canvas with layers of repetitive marks, and creates a visual effect similar to photographic reproductions, as if a camera had snapped a picture just as we lost our way. This illusion is achieved by manipulating the liquidity of the paint by combining random, blurry strokes with sharp lines at varying speed and translucency. Working hands-on with straight edges and knives to produce an effect of “instant reality,” **Tolon’s** paintings allude to architectural spaces and the complexity of a memory, while serving as a mechanism that triggers personal associations and subjective interpretations. Her intention is to recreate the moment we falter, the moment of uncertainty, and to ponder why we believe what we see when we lose ourselves in the details. *Where Were We* includes eleven new paintings and a series of small black and white drawings.

Born in Istanbul, **Canan Tolon** has lived and worked in the San Francisco Bay Area for over 30 years. She has exhibited in New York, London, and Berlin and in both Istanbul and Ankara, where she has a devoted following. Her work is included in the public collections of the British Museum in London and Istanbul Modern in Istanbul. Educated in Germany, England, and at UC Berkeley, she is also trained as an architect and designer. **Tolon** has exhibited with the gallery since 1997.

*Where Were We* will take place at Minnesota Street Project in the Dogpatch arts district of San Francisco. A reception for the artist will be held on Saturday, February 17 from 4-7pm.