

DETAIL 23

LOST IN PERCEPTION

Each bent-stripe canvas by New York City painter Linda Bradford looks like one half of a very colourful room. The interplay of shape, volume and movement created by varicoloured bands is engrossing to the point of being hypnotic. Calling herself a process painter, Bradford works repetitively in Photoshop to stratify lines of two-dimensional colour, creating kinetic volumes and trumping our vision. "It's possible to array colours so that the eye gets "played", says Bradford. "It's a physiological phenomenon. The right arrangement can rivet vision with jolts and flows of dynamic colour relationships, without any other associations. That's what I aim for. It's a form of transcendence, to lose oneself in perception." The artist starts with a linear field, which she subjects to a series of filters, tweaking it over and over again, making some edges soft, some hard, in order to develop resonant relationships between fields of colour. She prints each 'Strata Mandala' piece on watercolour paper at approximately 76-by-102 centimetres, but no matter the size, the image seems to draw the eye inside. Bradford's next project, which will bring the work to the scale of an actual interior, is a seven-minute digital animation loop called 'Harmonic Progression', which will involve projecting fields of colour, one morphing imperceptibly into the next, onto a film sandwiched between two pieces of glass in a darkened room.

Shonquis Moreno

New York rock: Linda Bradford's magnetizing, two-dimensional 'Strata Mandala' appears to draw the viewer into its coloured bands.



Flamingo, 2004



Serape, 2004

