

ELÉNA RIVERA

BLUE ABSTRACTION

“if there is too much subject matter, then there is no view” —Nathaniel Dorsky

Relinquishing control
not a song of treason
but a surface
to be treated

Also heritage
in an age of
outside in

Color had to
stand trial
and the subject

That deceit first of negative space
filled with figures
Had to be primed
with thin lightweight coats
Men and women cold
in the flurry

Inside color
I found
space endlessly receding

Was not abstraction
something I'd worked for?

An etching point
gets at the tempest

I didn't mean to dislocate the story
just tried to disclose the organic
life of "abstract energy"

Defeat first
Squall then became
embodied in the materials

Color
aleatory
Yes, "chance" "luck"
also mind
started getting
hot the form
(could be called "key")

Glean then
certain threads then
collected there
in the body

No place for nudes and the rapacious

Blue becomes alive then
in the life of the mind
in the cotton
in dense wind

A different kind of looking
A home
missing, haunted by
being furled

The key to this?
An “inside out” passion
(concepts viewed from a different angle)

To clear the space
remove figures
the sequential

but must be moved by what is left behind

beneath uneven incised lines
were primal energy sources

I walked for hours

In all the detritus
lines stuck
I understood that too

The Canvas is never empty

after "Primal Energy-13-Inner Sources," painting by Edda Renouf