



Teachers' Night at Oakville Galleries

Thursday 26 January 2012, 5:30–7:00 pm
Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens
1306 Lakeshore Road East, Oakville
Free

Join us on January 26th for an inspiring evening of art and ideas. Teachers' Night at Oakville Galleries includes a guided tour of our current exhibition and an introduction to the Galleries' innovative elementary and secondary school programs available all school year long. Our award-winning programs connect contemporary art with Ontario curriculum strands such as Science and Technology, Mathematics, Visual Art, Social Studies, Canadian History, and Language and Media Arts. Come out and exchange ideas about artworks and discuss teaching strategies with fellow educators.

Our first Teachers' Night of 2012 will include a tour of *Bright Limit*, a solo exhibition of Montreal-based painter Chris Kline (details below); a mixed media workshop in Oakville Galleries' lakeside studio that you can take back to your students; and a presentation of our school programs over wine and cheese.

All participants will be entered into a draw to win 40% off a future school program for up to 30 students!

Pre-registration required. To register, please contact:
Elizabeth Underhill, Interim Education Coordinator elizabeth@oakvillegalleries.com 905.844.4402 x26

Chris Kline: Bright Limit



The work of Montreal-based artist Chris Kline reflects on the history of painting—modernist abstraction, in particular—while offering a unique take on the medium's formal and material vocabulary. Whether stretching chromatic variations of delicate fabric over a wooden support or painting nominal bands of nuanced colour on translucent poplin, Kline's works are consistently pared down to an economical visual language, foregrounding the materiality and underlying structure of each work.

In Kline's painting, colour is used much like the Colour Field artists of the 1960s, in which paint was often spread across or stained into the canvas to create areas of unbroken surface and a flat picture plane. Yet, the precision of Kline's craft draws us beyond the picture plane and into the space behind—the edges and boundaries of wooden supports and the hollow spaces created by them. Treating his paintings in this way, Kline leads us to ask: object or illusion? painting or sculpture? foreground or background?

Space and surface, light and shadow fluidly meld in his works. In one series, a band of colour bisects the paintings to suggest a horizon line. In another, subtle chromatic variations between works stand in for the slow shift of light across space. Indeed, Kline's use of such a constrained syntax addresses the limits of our mental and visual perception. Seen in the context of Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens, this focus on the limits of vision is resonant not only with the expansive horizon of Lake Ontario, but also the perceptual variables of atmosphere, weather and light.

Image credit: Chris Kline, *Rise*, 2008.