

Jeffrey Kroll



Jeffrey Kroll was born to an American father and British mother in New York City, that vital and prime centre of painting's great flowering in the post Second World War period.

Kroll's studies began in the Philadelphia College of Art and continued in Florence and Athens at the museum of archaeology. This study was the manifestation of his passion for the classical tradition. A keen interest in Italy's Renaissance artists is matched by the deep influences he absorbed from the great works since the mid-nineteenth century; of Van Gogh, Picasso,

Kandinsky, Klee and Mondrian.

From a formulaic point of view, the artist's 'non-objective' work clearly demonstrates his supreme brushwork skill; the layering of colour to develop the tonalities he seeks to fulfil his 'subjective' criteria. We are subtly pulled into the painter's imaginative arena, his 'universal' spaces and nuanced light sensations. Kroll's understanding of the *'mores geometrica'*, as Leonardo termed the science of applying paint to a two dimensional canvas to create a world of appearances beyond words, pulls the viewer in fact into a four dimensional reality of *moment, movement, depth and space*. Kroll applies both the thickest and very finest layers of paint in a single work to achieve veil upon veil of subtly reflective worlds of extraordinary colour that spill themselves dynamically, dramatically and mysteriously into and out of geometry, beyond frames, taking us to infinite places of wonder which any curious mind is capable of imagining. This exciting work, both contemporary and timeless, is a triumph not only for the painter but for painting in a period when people are searching for a little awe, inspiration and the magic of a continually original imagination.

Kroll's expertise is indisputable, his output phenomenal and exhibitions have been held in major galleries in Paris (Le Carrousel du Louvre, Musée Louvre), New York, Los Angeles, Turin, Mexico City and London. Jeffrey Kroll is also one of several artists along with Grayson Perry to be asked to join Lord Coe for the Launch of Artists taking the lead, the £5.4 million first major project for the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad.

Plato said, nearly two thousand five hundred years ago: *'the painter makes a dream for those who are awake'*. In looking at Jeffrey Kroll's paintings, here and now, where they belong, we should be awake and ready to dream.

Maggie Goren
(Critic & Art Historian)