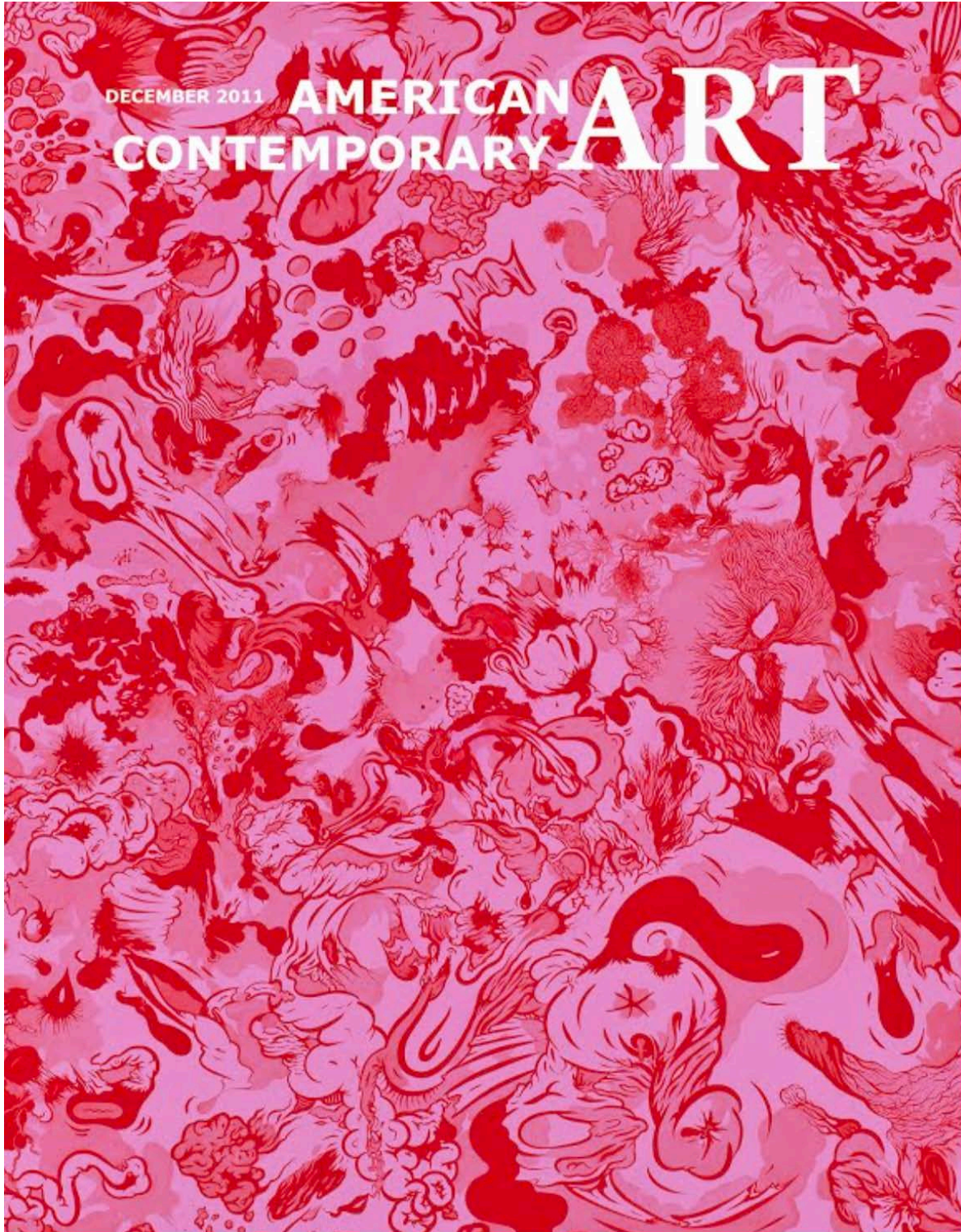


# REGEN PROJECTS

“Sue Williams: Regen Projects.” American Contemporary Art (December 2011) p. 34 [ill., cover]

AMERICAN  
CONTEMPORARY ART

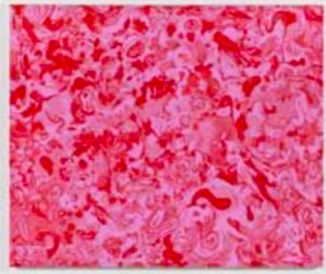


# REGEN PROJECTS

## LOS ANGELES

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**Sue Williams**  
Regen Projects Los Angeles  
[through Dec 22]



Sue Williams: *Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous*, 2011, oil on canvas, 52"x62"; *Unmanned Drones*, 2011, oil on canvas, 60"x60". Images courtesy Regen Projects, L.A. © Sue Williams

A retrospective of Sue Williams' paintings, drawings, and collages from 1990 to the present day, this exhibition illustrates the formal and thematic courses she has historically drawn upon and subverted in her work. Sue Williams' early work echoed and argued with post-feminist dialogues on gender politics and the discourse of the body. Employing a cartoon-like style, her paintings employed humor and satire in their depiction of gruesome acts of sexual violence to address issues of sexual objectification, sadomasochism, femininity, violation, and abasement. This was followed by a period where sexual attributes (orifices and genitalia) were concealed amongst brushstrokes of alleged abstraction. Her work then moved to total abstraction — elegant linear passages of graceful arabesques in space. The brushed and poured lines became the subject occupying an empty

background. Figuration slowly returned to Williams' compositions in fragmented abstractions of the human form. These lyrical baroques catch different anatomical details and organic forms in their fluid and elegant web. Williams utilized the traditionally patriarchal domain of painting to simultaneously parody male dominated painterly archetypes while breaking through the medium's formal barriers. Sue Williams' paintings merge the distinct and seemingly disparate styles of figurative representation and lyrical abstraction, combining and slipping between the two while avoiding the limitations of the genres. The line in her work is constantly in flux and is neither compelled toward depiction nor limited from it. Form, color and the resulting spaces of presence and absence prevail to create humorous, ironic, witty, and sublime explorations of the process of abstract painting.

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