

## ARTIST STATEMENT

Corri-Lynn Tetz

My work as a painter, focusses on the female figure as way to explore identity, subjectivity, sensation and desire. Working from personal archives, fashion photography, film and pornography, I'm interested in the ways images and meaning are transformed through painting and how this process disrupts notions of the gaze and re-imagines pictorial space. In this, intuitive paint handling distances each piece from its source, as I use disparate colour, form and inventive figuration, to imply transformation, affect and sensation. My goal is that each painting occupies a space between representation and abstraction - that form provides enough information to convey bodies and space, without losing the immediacy of that first, energized, layer of paint.

While past work has drawn from the romantic histories of figure in landscape, notions of collective spirituality and embodied cognition, my recent paintings are directly exploring representations of feminine sexuality. Working from 80's/ 90's porn, as well as photos I take of friends, I am interested in the ways the process of painting unexpectedly transforms meaning and disrupts the primacy of the male gaze. I am interested in the ways these newly embodied figures, enact complicated notions of socially constructed sexuality, on their own terms, in their own skin. And while my primary interest is in the painting and the formal exploration of pictorial space, I am also considering the notions of shame, class and dogma, that might complicate the viewers relationship to such overt expressions of female sexuality.