

Simultaneously: The Art of Roger Carlisle and Daniel J. Reeves

A true artist must also be a skilled magician. All of the devices that manipulate the viewer into believing that something extraordinary has occurred must be hidden, but the illusion must remain. In *Simultaneously: The Art of Roger Carlisle and Daniel J. Reeves* we find two artists working intuitively and intellectually to create such an effect. Both men masterfully lay down areas of color to trick the eye into seeing what is not there.

Carlisle's landscape-inspired work combines confident mark making and well-crafted compositions with somewhat minimal imagery. We smell the leaves on the ground, we hear the grasses rustle, we feel the damp and chilly air, but Carlisle has not painted them. He has provided us with swaths of color, the illusion of space and the sense we have been there before. Like a mirror, he holds each of his paintings up to us, allowing our imaginations to step in and to remember a day in the woods or a drive through the countryside. His beautifully painted and delicately balanced use of form and color allows just enough room for the viewer to mentally complete the work, making us believe we know this place that he has magically plucked from our memory.

Reeves immediately confronts us with his playfulness, making it abundantly apparent that this is a man who enjoys life. His non-objective works make our eyes dance and trick our minds into wondering if what we see could be real. His Neo-Op Art paintings use strong or complementary colors to fool us into believing that a floating blue band is not just multi-colored but gently vibrating. His work, derived from years of research, balances formal technique with theory. The effect is enjoyable both visually and intellectually. What might seem to be a straightforward use of alternating colors is, in fact, a very calculated application of a multitude of layers of paint. He charms us with his pleasing color combinations but offers us more with his deliberate visual tricks that appear in violation of natural law.

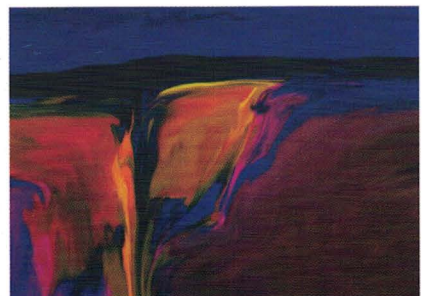
When seen together it becomes clear that these two painters are both illusionists, not in the usual sense of producing an apparently three dimensional space on a two dimensional surface, but through a shared creative generosity that allows us to see in a new way. The *joie de vivre* expressed through their work is no slight of hand, but a gift to us all.

-Les Christensen, Director
Bradbury Gallery

Cover Image: **Daniel J. Reeves**, *Blue #3*, 2006, acrylic on canvas, 40 x 30 inches
Back Image: **Roger Carlisle**, *Ocean 1*, 2006, oil on canvas, 48 x 66 inches



Roger Carlisle, *Ocean 2*, 2006,
oil on canvas, 48 x 66 inches



Daniel J. Reeves, *Color Forms*, 2006,
archival ink on Arches, 40 x 24 inches



s i m u l t a n e o u s l y



Roger Carlisle, *Embankment and Trees*, 2006,
oil on canvas, 48 x 66 inches



Roger Carlisle, *Small Trees in Yellow and Blue*, 2006,
oil on canvas, 60 x 72 inches

s i m u l t a n e o u s l y

18 January - 18 February 2007
opening reception: 18 January, 5 pm

Bradbury Gallery
Fowler Center, Arkansas State University
201 Olympic Drive
Jonesboro, Arkansas
870 972 2567
Tuesday - Saturday 12 - 5
Sunday 2- 5

Daniel J. Reeves, *Red Black Variation Series*, 2006, archival ink on Arches, 13 x 19 inches each

