

For Immediate Release

Anya Tish Gallery  
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## **HJ Bott: Paradigms in Paint and Wire**

**Opening Reception for the Artist: Friday, September 10, 6:00 – 8:30 pm.  
Exhibition on view through October 9, 2010**

Anya Tish Gallery is delighted to announce a solo exhibition of HJ Bott, conceptualist, painter, sculptor and theorist. Born in 1933, Bott first came to prominence in the mid 1950's in Germany and France whilst working as a propaganda analyst for the United States Army. Now living and working in Houston Texas, Bott, who describes himself as a "Baroque Minimalist" inspired by artists such as Joseph Albers and Barnett Newman, continues to create a prolific body of work more than six decades on.

Bott's works are included in more than seventy museum and corporate collections worldwide, including the Museum of Fine Art Houston, Denver Museum of Art, New Orleans Museum of Art and Columbia University in New York.

*Paradigms in Paint and Wire* presents a collection of works that explore the phenomenon of the line, including a new series of paintings that investigate the engaging relationship between line and color, as well as a group of innovative wire sculptures that date back over the last decade. Bott's work has been preoccupied with a motif called the DoV module, which he developed in the seventies by combining basic archetypal patterns and symbols into a grid-like system, then applying the abstract outcomes into his work.

The paintings on show incorporate complex and hypnotic systems of lines that are etched into the surface of the paintings, reminiscent of raked Buddhist Zen gardens, which inject the work with a sense of spirituality that captivates the viewer, whilst also retracing Bott's childhood experiences of living on a farm and endlessly watching the tilling of soil. The paintings are powerful yet subdued; bringing together antagonistic color palettes with interactive surfaces that subtly generate fluctuating rhythms of light and shadow, reacting to the viewer's movements around the work.

Bott also explores his DoV motif within his painstakingly assembled wire sculptures that effortlessly float on walls or sit on the gallery floor, transforming forgotten spaces into engaging and compelling architectural environments. The sculptures embody a substantial yet weightless aesthetic, which is fuelled by

Bott's fascination with symbols (such as yin and yang) and consequently embed the delicate and historical process of hand weaving with the physical contemporary nature of galvanized wire, electric wire and industrial mesh.

The gallery's regular hours are 10:30 AM until 6:00 PM Tuesdays through Fridays and from 10:30 AM until 5:00 PM on Saturdays.