

Contemporary,

#41, #48, 2003



Dona Nelson, *RE/MEMBERED*, 2002, pencil, acrylic paint and acrylic mediums on canvas, 223.5 x 269.2 cm. Courtesy: Cheim and Read, New York

NEW YORK: CHEIM AND READ

DONA NELSON

7 January – 8 February 2003

Dona Nelson is of the same generation of American abstract painters as Thomas Nozkowski, who continue to maintain a consistent, assured, highly respected yet unostentatious presence on the art circuit, regardless of trends and fads. Nelson's paintings became progressively more rigorous as she moved through the nineties, with the tensions and contrasts between form and content becoming more acute and intense. At all times, however, there has been a celebration of the fluidity and gooiness of paint, which often vied for attention with materials as diverse as latex, enamel, modelling paste, pencil, charcoal and various collaged elements. One strand in her most recent work which follows this sense of tactile alchemy is the remaking of one representational motif in different versions using diverse techniques, emphasising as much her continuing exploration of process and cognition as her refusal to be tethered by one trademark style.