

FRAMED: The Hedonism of Words

An intricate network of parallel lines and ribbons of color that lead your eye on a rollicking tour around the canvas

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"Hedonistic" by Feodor Voronov (2013); acrylic, marker, ballpoint pen, and spray paint on canvas; 50" x 48"

There's nothing hedonistic about "Hedonistic," one of the paintings in L.A. artist Feodor Voronov's solo exhibition, *Relics*, currently on view in the main room at Culver City's Mark Moore Gallery. It's called that because the word is embedded in the intricate network of parallel lines and ribbons of color that lead your eye on a rollicking tour around the canvas.

Every work in this show depicts a different word or phrase. The non-sequential arrangement of the idiosyncratically formed letters in each tableau creates a compositional "problem," as Voronov describes the process, but "each one has its own logical solution." Vibrant swaths of acrylic, spray paint and marker, along with long, meticulously straight ballpoint pen strokes, surround the words and obscure their readability, but never fully remove them from view.

Voronov affirms that the particular locutions he's selected for the pieces, and which give them their titles, have no literal relevance. The point in these is to "plunge past the meanings of the words, to push right through them," not to illustrate them.

Indeed one of the main reasons he initially started dabbling with incorporating words into his paintings was that for a long time he was sure it was something he had no interest in doing. "I've never been a big fan of texts or writing" in visual art, Voronov acknowledges.

Feodor Voronov's "Relics" exhibition is on view through October 12 at the Mark Moore Gallery, 5790 Washington Blvd., Culver City. The gallery is open 11-6 Tuesdays through Saturdays and by appointment.