

FABRIK

ART. DESIGN. ARCHITECTURE.

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COMING OUT, GOING IN

EDWARD CELLA ART+ARCHITECTURE

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GOING IN: Ruth Pastine: "Counterpoint," through Oct. 27



COUNTERPOINT #33, 2012 · RUTH PASTINE ·
PASTEL ON PAPER · 30 X 22 INCHES

Ruth Pastine's ethereal pastels propose transcendence through pure color. Already well known for her near-monochrome paintings, Pastine finds a different optical space in her works on paper - not only because these are too small to occupy the viewer's entire optical field (and must thus operate like pages, miniature portals into universes of color) but because their dry, smoothly powdery hues have a different presence than do her painted surfaces. In effect, they feel different to the eye, more tactile and even sensual. This allows Pastine a sweeter, and perhaps fleshier, palette. However, she resists the temptation to "go pretty"; these intimate visual spaces still pull us toward purity.