



Single-minded

Begun in April 2012, Kocot and Hatton's "Axis" series paintings at Larry Becker Contemporary Art have no right angles; are made in two sizes (about 19 by 20 inches and 13 by 14 inches and vice-versa, depending on how they are mounted); and their colors are applied according to a medieval heraldic color code that the wife-and-husband artist team discovered 25 years ago. (For example, the structural code for blue is represented by horizontal lines or strokes, and the red code by vertical ones.)

That said, these nearly square oil and oil stick monochromatic paintings are done in the richest colors imaginable, from such metal-based pigments as cadmiums (red, orange, yellow, and green), cobalt (blue), and manganese dioxide (violet), and the nubs in the linen they're painted on give them a similarly rich texture.

The collaborators have also produced solidly white (titanium oxide and zinc oxide) and gray (titanium oxide, zinc oxide, and iron oxide) paintings in this series, but they make a lesser impact

than their works in color, possibly because the intense color of the other works exaggerates their off-kilter shapes and also suggests a windowlike view to another dimension.

Larry Becker Contemporary Art, 43 N. 2d St., 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. 215-925-5389 or www.artnet.com/lbecker.html. Through June 21.

EDITH NEWHALL, *FOR THE INQUIRER*

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