

## ARTIST STATEMENT

JUDY RIFKA



“THERE IS NO  
ACTUAL SPACE IN  
PAINTING: THAT  
SPACE ALWAYS  
BECOMES AN  
EMOTIONAL  
CONNECTION.”

Paradigm-shifting. That is what it is about for me. You don't just sit there and follow in everyone's footsteps. You have to paint your way through it, and that takes time.

I ask, what does everyone think that painting is about, that it doesn't have to be about? What conclusions are they drawing that we are ready to break out of?

In painting, you put one thing down, then you think about where you want to put another thing. After that, it looks like some kind of space is built up.

However, there is no actual space in painting: that space always becomes an emotional connection.

Making a painted connection of your intention is the same as growth, the same as how any form works, how a pseudopod works, how evolution works. You decide where you want to go, you go there, and then you build a body to go there. This becomes the form.

So the space disappears, and a form, or a body, comes out of it. - **Judy Rifka, 2021**