

# BENIGNA CHILLA



**Two Black Triangles, 2012**

## ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Benigna Chilla, born in 1940, began her art studies in her native land of Germany at the Folkwangschule für Gestaltung in Essen and then at the Academy of Fine Arts in Berlin. She moved to the United States in 1969, completing her graduate studies at the State University of New York at Albany and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She has held residencies at Yaddo, the Djerassi Foundation, the Atlantic Center for the Arts and the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, MA. Benigna now splits her time between Chatham, NY and Kolkata, India. She has had over forty solo exhibitions both nationally and internationally.

## PAINTINGS PRINTS INSTALLATIONS

### Exhibition

August 24 - November 20, 2015

### Artist Talk & Reception

Thursday, September 10

4:45 - 6:30pm

### Gallery Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00am - 5:00pm

Saturday

10:00am - 2:00pm

### University Gallery

Rochester Institute of Technology

166 Lomb Memorial Drive

Rochester, New York

James E Booth Hall

585 - 475 - 2866

## EXHIBITION STATEMENT

This exhibition features artist Benigna Chilla's recent series of large-scale paintings shown in the context of earlier intaglio prints and wall installations. Her artistic process begins with inspiration from geometric patterns found in architecture, textiles and nature. She explores both organic and constructed geometric shapes, which are organized through symmetry. The large-scale paintings were created after a 2012 stay in Bhutan. Actual texture is embedded onto the canvas, layered with natural pigments like turmeric, saffron and minerals. The meditative and physical process of painting is as important to Benigna as the final pieces themselves.