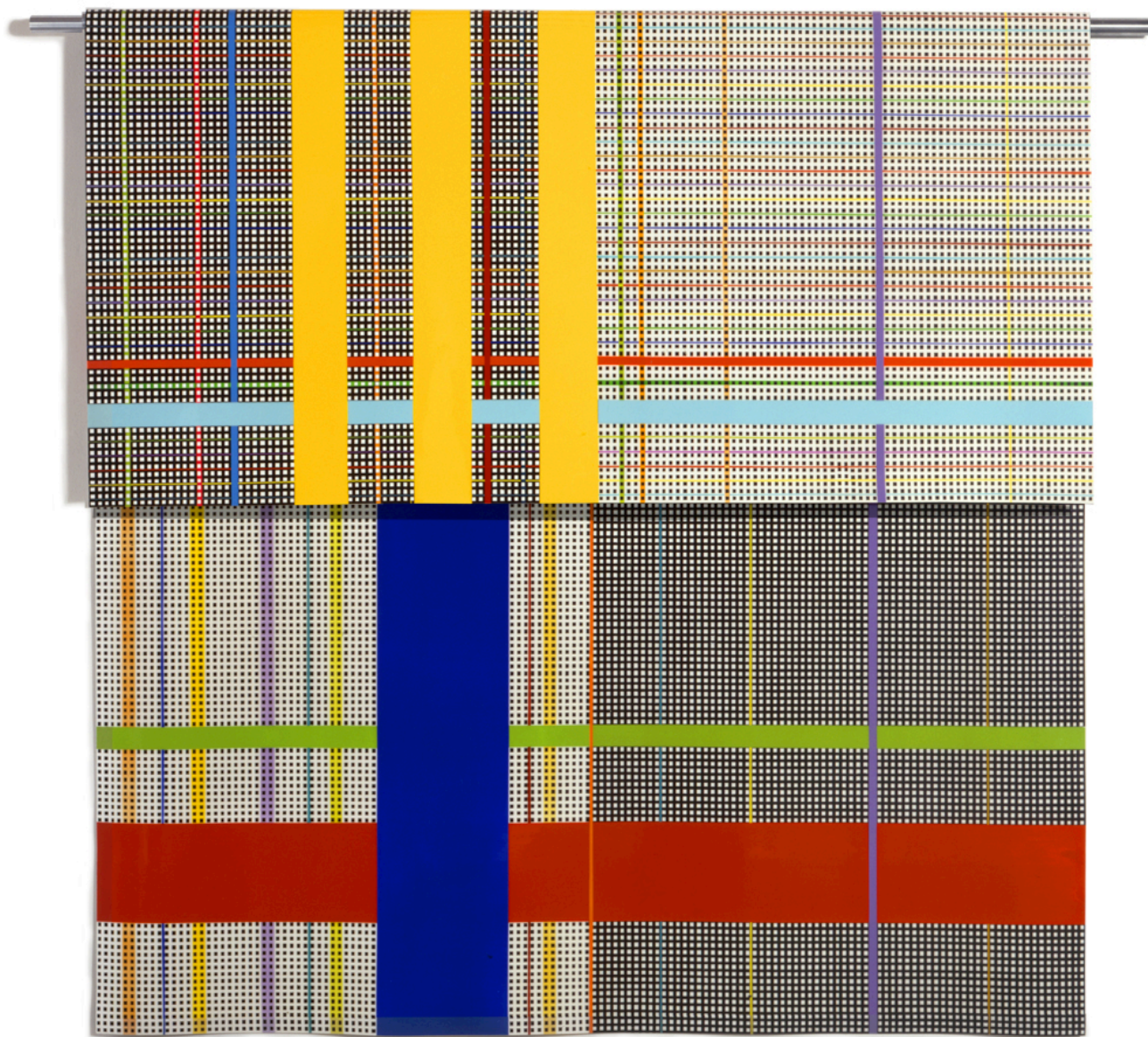


# ARTFORUM

CRITICS' PICKS

Linda Besemer at Angles Gallery - Artforum International



*Fold Quadrant #5, 2001.*

LOS ANGELES

## **Linda Besemer**

ANGLES GALLERY

2754 S. La Cienega Blvd.

September 14–October 20, 2001

Sometimes, size does matter. It may not have been difficult to guess that Linda Besemer's next move—after catching the art world's eye in the last Whitney Biennial with her draped, tucked, and folded sheets of pure acrylic paint—would be to go bigger, but there's more to this new work than simple yardage. Besemer's expanded real estate affords artist and viewer alike a wider field of consideration. Technically, it's impressive that she can make these paintings at all, let alone make big ones, but what's really impressive here is how Besemer's exploration of the grid, as well as color, line, transparency, stroke, and finish, has grown more complex and nuanced. Back is front and front is back, pieces are folded like towels over horizontal rods, one surface plays off and, at times, against the other. The associations and allusions abound: Woven textiles, the rigid and straight turned soft and bent, trajectories that double back on themselves, the difficulty of fixing points of reference for front and back, the past and the future. Those who dismissed Besemer's work in the past as eye candy will have a tougher time doing so with this exhibition. This show is candy for eye and mind.

— *Christopher Miles*

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