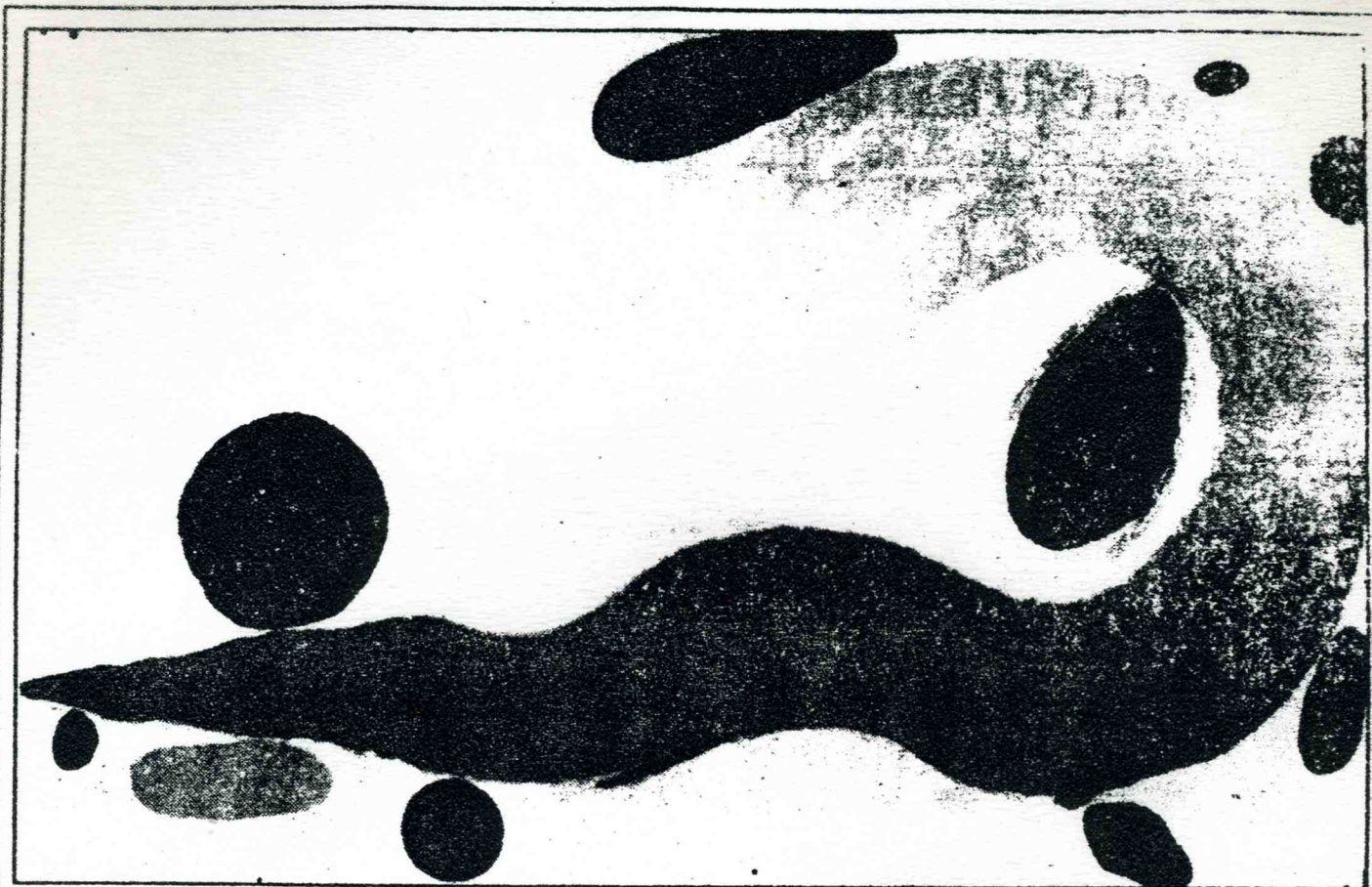


GALLERIES



Original thinker: Julie Voyce, a 28-year-old Ontario College of Art grad, has developed a visual vocabulary that's all her own. The above work, *Wave, Bolders*, is featured in a unique show at the Garnet Press (580 Richmond St. W.) until May 25.

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Julie Voyce may not be one of Toronto's best-known artists but on the basis of her current show that could soon change. On display at the Garnet Press (580 Richmond St. W.) until May 25, it ranks among the most original and irresistible debuts of recent years.

Working in ordinary house paint, the 28-year-old Ontario College of Art grad has developed a visual vocabulary that is all her own. Though her paintings are essentially abstract, they contain shapes and object-like images that are on the verge of becoming something recognizable.

"Everything depends," she told one interviewer, "on how the shape is placed on the paper. You start with a shape and then everything around it has to make sense."

In most cases, everything in her paintings *does* make sense. They may be formless in many respects but they possess an uncanny inner logic that gives them balance and makes them truthful.

I've never met Voyce but those who have describe her in such breathless terms that the prospect makes me nervous. Listening to Carla Garnett or reading former Star art critic Gary Deult on the subject of Voyce one gets the impression she could single-handedly resurrect the Toronto art scene.

That remains to be seen. It's clear, however, that she steers an entirely independent course.

Not for her are the endless outpourings of expressionistic angst. Voyce is on to something more celebratory, more personal, and a lot more worthwhile.

CHRISTOPHER
HUME

Art

