

Information about "Fire Ash Over Antarctica" by Leighton Scott

"Fire Ash Over Antarctica" is one of the unique surfaces Leighton has created using a base of Z-Ment adhesive and adding other materials. Many of his works have a pleasant and fairly simple look from a distance, a look which works well as with modern room decor. But when the surfaces are examined closely by a viewer, great complexity is revealed.

In this painting, Leighton combined white adhesive mortar with abstract patches of nearly-white stucco patch to create a surface that has a surface similar to what Antarctica looks like from high altitude. Then, black specks were added in a random pattern to the painting while it was drying. The black material is actually imitation coal which is used in model railroading.

This painting is part of his "Environmental Awareness" series where his paintings may seem somewhat minimalist at first but are designed to encourage viewers to consider environmental issues. Would the fly ash from fires on the continents actually reach Antarctica? Recent events suggest that possibility. And like most abstract art, the painting is subject to other interpretations.

Leighton is the first known artist to use adhesive mortar as an art medium and has been creating unique surfaces with it since 1979. As a former NASA scientist who studied the Earth's atmosphere and later worked on the design of environmental satellite systems, he is using his unique art to promote awareness of climate change issues.