ALLAN GORMAN

BORN
Brooklyn NY, 1947

WORKS
West Orange, NJ

EDUCATION
Self taught, coursework at SVA and The Montclair Art Museum. Artist residency at The Vermont Studio Center in 2012.

MATERIALS
Oil paint

SUBJECT MATTER
Abstract compositions posing in the guise of realism, with a focus on machines and their parts.

INSPIRATION
The tension and balance between shapes, tonal values, textures, colors, and positive and negative spaces.

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE
Letting students know that the works are about the abstractions (essence) found within objects, rather than the objects themselves might let them enjoy the work in a different way.

TO TAKE AWAY
Think about how other commonplace objects could be abstracted to give them new life and depth. How can different surfaces be represented using paint?

HOW COULD THIS RELATE?

SCIENCE
Gorman represents reflective surfaces using non-reflective materials. What visual attributes must be focus on for this illusion to be accurate?

ENGLISH
Gorman’s paintings can been seen as a poetic response to typically masculine subject matter. How is he fetishizing or romanticizing the machine?

HISTORY
In this choice of subject matter, Gorman places his work in a specific historical time period. What can technology tell us about culture?

MATHEMATICS
A shift in scale is a useful tool in abstracting a recognizable object. How can different scaling ratios cause different interpretations?

For more information:
www.allangorman.com
www.stac.edu/amag