



## **Michael D. Boyd**

November 27, 1936 – September 29, 2015

Michael Boyd was into color. From the tops of bright colored t-shirts peeking out from underneath more muted long sleeved shirts, the snippet of color catching your attention like a summer bouquet of flowers on a gray tabletop, to his hundreds of paintings, Mike lived life vibrantly.

He described painting “as a medium of expression capable of communicating profound visual experiences solely through its own elements: color and structure.”

His work evolved over time, but not his commitment to exploring in abstract but highly structured series of paintings the interplay of form—composition—and color.

A mid-westerner born and educated in Iowa, he became a highly successful New York City artist where his paintings gained recognition and appreciation in solo and group exhibitions, especially at the Andre Zarre Gallery, where his work was often shown. Collections in art museums, universities, and corporations across the United States extended his reach nationally.

Mike brought his passion not just for painting but also for design, and especially graphic design, to the Department of Design and Environmental Analysis for twenty-eight years. Hundreds of students taking his introduction to design course learned how to think more clearly and convey ideas and emotions more effectively in his studios. His interest in design,

architecture and music influenced his art, and reflected his unabating curiosity in the world around him.

Even-tempered and always ready to talk and share ideas, Mike embodied the characteristics we most associate with being collegial.

We will miss him.

*Gary William Evans, chair; and Franklin Becker*