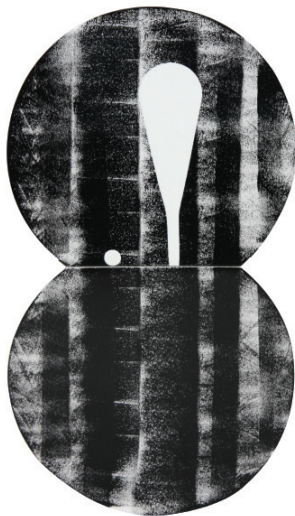




*Compass 1, Tondo 1210mm*

NICK WALL

## NICK WALL - Diodic 22nd February - 12th March 2011



Me 2, 740 x 410mm

In his latest paintings Nick Wall continues his investigations into what happens when careful calculations are combined with controlled accidents. Part of the calculated input is his preparation of rigorously geometric supports – round tondos or squares – which are left as raw linen canvas or are smoothly painted as monochromes. Over the past five years he has allowed dribbles of paint to run across these immaculate surfaces. This clash of opposites – minimalism with abstract expressionism – reflects Wall's philosophy. When the yin and the yang are in perfect balance, serenity of the mind and spirit is promoted. This effect is perfectly demonstrated in *The Heart in the Matter* where, in addition to the dialogue of paint, we are treated to the gentle collision of two circles, or one circle about to split into two, like an amoeba. There is nothing complicated going on here, but it is remarkably satisfying to observe.

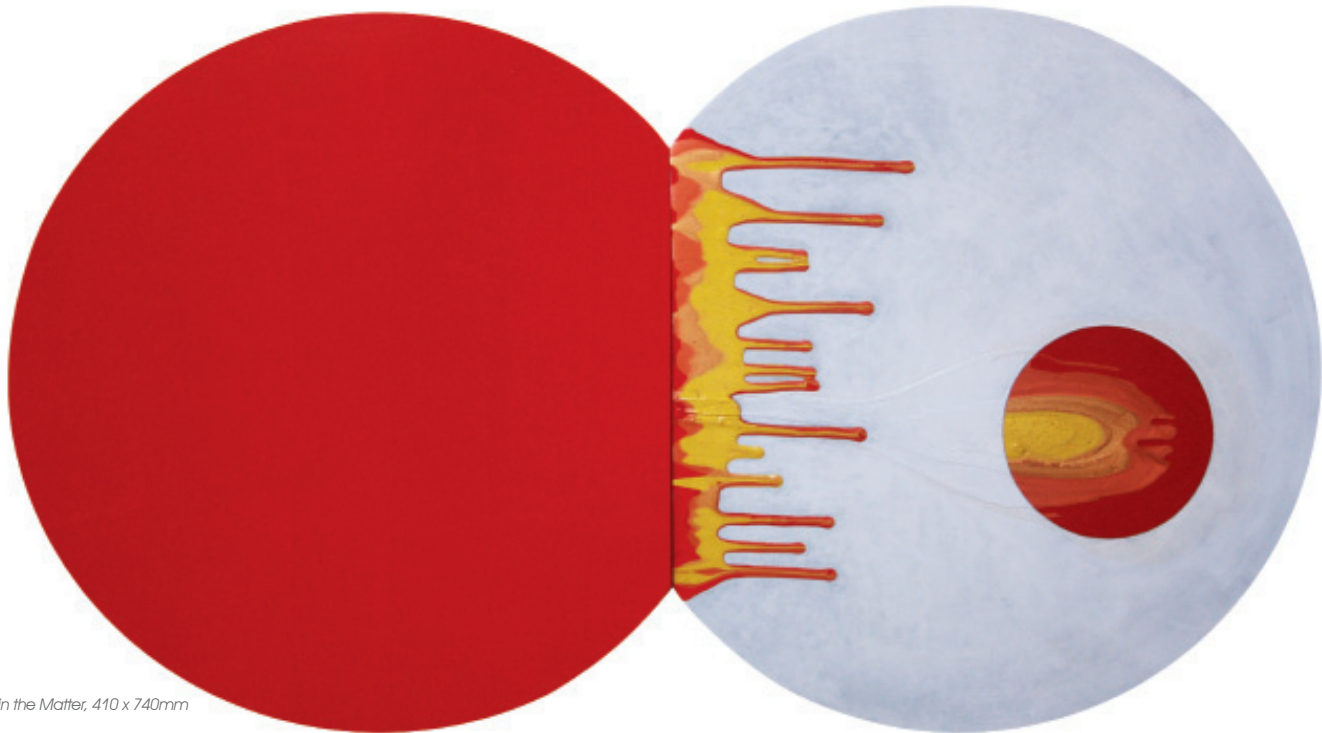
*A Moment in Time* Appears to have already split off from something else, inviting us to create our own mental

partner for it. The thinly drawn construct of lines creates a background, making the odd white forms float freely. Each with its own gold nucleus, they are perhaps cells which will shortly grow and form a new organism.

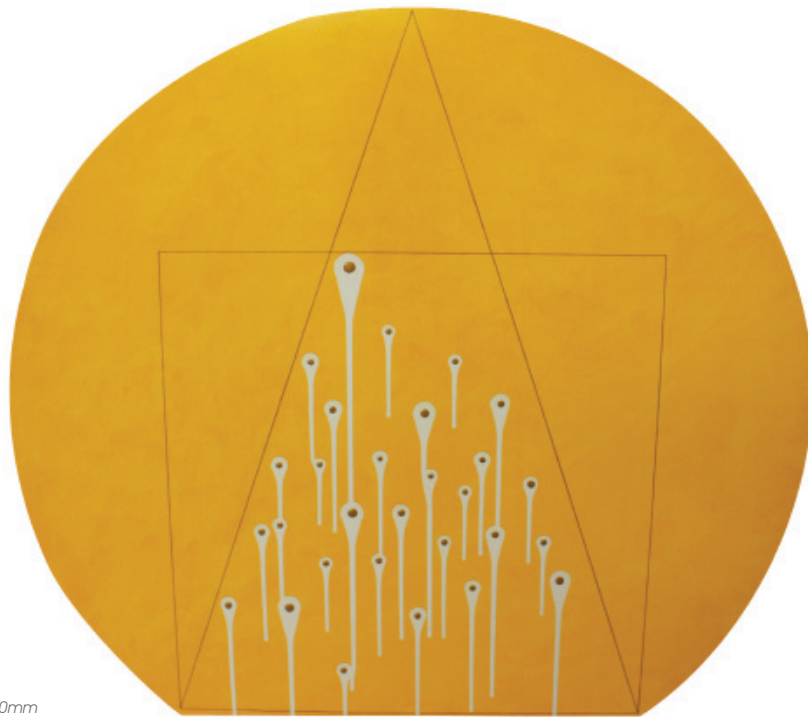
*Compass 1* takes a completely different tack, with its rigid orange square against a background of serrated paint. Here the contrasts are between the amorphous and the solid; the pure and the impure and between two quite different geometric shapes.

A diode is an electronic device that transmits electrical impulses in only one direction, in this case from artist to viewer. Participation is what the artist hopes for; a connection to his creative input. These paintings warrant thoughtful contemplation and the formation of a personal response. This ability to engage the mind is what makes a work of art.

Warwick Brown, January 2011



*The Heart in the Matter, 410 x 740mm*



*A Moment in Time (29 Travellers), 1210 x 1090mm*



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