

JOY WALKER AT MKG127

\$1,000-\$1,800. Until Oct. 11,
129 Ossington Ave., Toronto;
647-435-7682

Toronto-based artist Joy Walker's exhibition *Fours* is a series of large and very handsome silkscreen prints. These clean, geometric works are prints, but not in the sense of a numbered series of almost identical examples of her work. Instead, as Walker points out in her gallery statement, the print process allows her to make unique works which are composed of repeated elements, modular ideas, adjusted into varying arrangements which echo and otherwise play off one another.

The prints appear to be twin stacks of rectangular graphic forms – boxes, essentially. Much of the pleasure *Fours* affords comes from the fresh and surprising ways Walker choreographs the boxes (they look drawn, but actually they are delicately silk-screened) and the matte planes of silk-screened colour (red, yellow, blue, black, white, grey) with which she sometimes attempts to “fill in” the tautly rendered boxes.

Apparently derived from the precise pattern of a textile design, the precision of the outline boxes and their walls of colour is edgy and unresolved, as if there were conflicting energies at work, pulling the boxes together even as they seem to resist confinement. Walker seems right on the money when she characterizes this as a “visual tug-of-war between fusion and separation.”