

ANNIE KAMMERER BUTRUS



RED & WHITE

The *Red and White* series was created in conjunction with the *Parade of Homes* series. This series of paintings is based on the cause and effect of sprawl in the Birmingham metro area. The cause of sprawl is the American Dream: the desire to own one's own home. Unmitigated growth is the effect of sprawl.

This series considers the relationship between the manmade and remaining natural environment in suburban building developments. This series features thematic suburban developments designed to beckon a Jeffersonian-era of rolling agrarian landscapes dotted with working farms and the occasional water feature.

In order to heighten the dynamic of the natural and built environment, a monochromatic palette presents white forms silhouetted against a cadmium red ground. The negative and positive space acts as a metaphor for the built and natural environment. The positive space is painted on with a latex resist, over-painted with red gouache then erased to reveal the positive form and the white of the paper beneath. Often these pictures have no horizon line thereby making the positive space float ungrounded on the red field, just as new communities are yet to be defined and grounded. The series offers passing glimpses of nature scenes, framed and defined by manmade structures.