

Visualizing Gamma Ray Bursts Through the Inner Eye

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Gamma-ray bursts, the most dazzling explosions in our universe, are visualized through gamma-ray, x-ray, and visible spectra. Each of these spectra offers unique insights into gamma-ray events, e.g. resolution of the energy and temporal structure, and determination of the red shift. Paintings, by juxtaposing wavelengths of the visible spectrum into dynamic two-dimensional arrangements, can lead the viewer into reflection on the dynamics of gamma-ray bursts.

Through the language of color, pictorial tension, and scale, painting is uniquely suited to engender a transcendental experience in the viewer, allowing him to appreciate the dynamics of gamma-ray bursts on an intuitive rather than purely intellectual plane. This series of acrylic paintings on rice-paper depicts gamma-ray events as viewed through the “inner-eye”, allowing color and painterly abstraction to jolt the viewer into appreciation of the immense energies released during gamma-ray bursts.