

CAREY MORNING

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**from audio-guide to the artist's unmade work**

by Carey Morning

This next piece  
is from the artist's series entitled  
Forgiven Failures.  
A certain critic  
has referred to it as  
Unforgivable Indulgence.  
Be that as it may.  
It too was completed  
during the prolific phase  
following her father's death.

Let us approach the work.  
From a distance the surface shimmers.  
A peculiar radiance draws us in.  
On closer inspection  
we observe that the canvas  
is actually slashed to shreds,  
but micro-surgically.  
The minuscule violence  
that is enacted here  
is surprisingly horrific.  
Hundreds of tiny  
open wounds  
scar the painted linen.  
Multiple attempts at restoration  
can be discerned,  
none successful.

At the same time,  
and we don't know how  
she achieved this effect,  
the translucent layers of colour  
surrounding the cuts  
pulsate in such a way  
that one perceives the urge  
to wholeness there.  
An insistent will to repair

shines through  
the stubborn violence.

And it is this  
that one remembers.  
Not the myriad acts of destruction.  
Ultimately the surface beauty  
is understood as  
not superficial at all but  
of the very depths  
from behind the painting itself  
even from  
behind everything.