Many of the works in "To Balance a Stone" were painted last summer during the COVID-19 quarantine. My days at that time consisted of morning walks through city parks, then long days and evenings at work in the studio. Park walks grounded me as I made visual notations of color, shape, repetition and pattern. In these abstractions I want to communicate something about that time and the way we seek balance, despite the turmoil, loss and unfathomability of days like those. Some of these pieces are about a specific moment, like "Cool August Rain", made after witnessing the sky open up in an unexpected downpour—laughing as I heard the excited screams of people dashing for cover from a brisk summer rain—and wondering how to paint such a moment.

Mary Temple September, 2021