Salted sculpture

By Edward J. Sozanski
INQUER ART CRITIC

Dove Bradshaw is back at Larry Becker Contemporary Art with another group of "sculptures" that undergo chemical changes while they’re being exhibited.

Five years ago, she dripped acid rain onto limestone blocks, with predictable results. In her new show, "Six Continents," she drips tap water onto piles of salt. Each cone-shaped pile comes from a different continent, and each is a different natural color, from white to ivory, green, pink and gray.

The dripping water dissolves the salt, which then recrystallizes pure white, changing both the shape and appearance of its pile. The nature of the changes varies according to the chemical composition of the original salt.

Science or art? There is an aesthetic effect that in at least one case is quite striking, but to me it's still Chemistry 101.

No such ambiguity attends Bradshaw's new paintings, a series of 12 mostly white-on-white panels in which one equilateral triangle nestles inside another. The paintings are presented as an ensemble, arranged along an artificial horizon so that one edge in each painting lines up with that horizon.

Bradshaw's formula for these works is a bit more involved than that. Suffice to say that subtle differences in surface textures and hues, and the permutations of how the paintings are placed on the "horizon," make Angles, as the series is called, an intriguing demonstration of rational composition.

Larry Becker, 43 N. Second Street
11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.
Through tomorrow. 215-925-5389.