



A.M. Richard Fine Art • 328 Berry Street, 3rd floor • Brooklyn, NY 11211
www.amrichardfineart.com • tel: (917) 570-1476 • gallery@amrichardfineart.com

For immediate release.

STATION PIECES: New Paintings by DEREK STROUP
September 11th – October 11th, 2009

A.M. Richard Fine Art is pleased to announce STATION PIECES, a series of new paintings by conceptual artist Derek Stroup. In these new works, Mr. Stroup questions visual perception through the language of form, color and text.

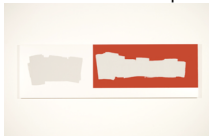
In an early series of small works on paper entitled Unrented Billboards (2005) the artist investigated the emptiness of what seemed (while viewed at high speed while driving across the countryside) large canvases on stilts rendered mute by the lack of information they were meant to communicate. The series Gas Stations and Signs (2006), Candy and Chips (2007) followed. In these photographs the artist digitally obliterated company mascots, logos, numerals and all signs of lettering. What was left was pure shape, color, line, shadow and crease – elements that still conveyed the object's message without spelling it out.

Beginning in 2003, Mr. Stroup was painting in a traditional manner, using oil applied to canvas, forms left by covered graffiti landscaping concrete urban settings. Station Pieces revisits this theme. Looking to mirror commercial truck and trailer surfaces, the artist paints, layers and constructs on very large sheets of riveted steel. The resulting paintings, Blue Panel and White Panel, are substitute trailer truck wall chassis fragments. Each painting, now morphed into a polished artistic object, illustrates a narrative of eradicated graffiti over distinct periods of time.

Red, White, Grey 2 (Station Exterior), a monumental architectural wall chip, located in the Main gallery, absorbs most of the space. The painting, a covered promotional sign, rests atop a frame of aluminum beams where nests a thick layer of pink fiberglass insulation material. A vapor barrier (a willowy white sheet of plastic) and an unhinged electrical box sprouting from the base accent this installation. Through his new work, Mr. Stroup is offering the viewer a highly gilded interpretation of industrial decay and global waste. In this the artist suggests an ugly truth, that the urban ruin and resulting real and visual pollution will be the demise of humanity. Stroup's work may be read as a timely comment on the legacy of failed economic ventures, how quickly commerce can sink and how arduous the road to recovery may be.

What binds Mr. Stroup's work together is a concern for the essential – the strictly necessary is often what remains of shared experience in a collective memory. In this, Mr. Stroup's paintings are a cumulative search for the palpable refinement of form, color, volume, texture and line.

This is Mr. Stroup's second solo show at the A.M. Richard Gallery.



Please contact A.M. Richard at (917) 570-1476 or gallery@amrichardfineart.com for more information. Gallery hours are Friday through Sunday from 1pm until 6pm.