

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DAVID DERISH
Visions and Revisions

August 29th - October 3rd, 2015
Opening Reception:
Saturday, August 29th, 7-9pm

(CHICAGO- July 31st, 2015)

Stuart & Co. Gallery is pleased to present *Visions and Revisions*, an exhibition of new works by David Derish, on view August 29th through October 3rd. With an approach harkening to the works of Matisse, Derish's paintings are vibrant, colorful explorations of vision and material. The act of seeing, of interacting with the painting, trumps the image represented. Derish's approach, where an image is at the inception of the painting only to be re-worked into a structure on which to hang the physicality of his chosen medium, pulls forth qualities from the source images that lie beneath the surface. In this way, Derish is able to re-imagine quotidian objects, embedding them with new visual dimensions that plumb the psychological depths of those who engage with them.

Derish describes his process as a "contemplative, psychological, personal and spiritual space." While considering himself a representational painter, he clarifies that there is no agenda or perspective trying to be translated through his work, only a vital engagement with painting as an object. "A painting begins, for me, with what a memory or an image can only suggest, going beyond representation to search for something under the surface. This psychological tension, or presence, that exists beneath the stuff of everyday life, demands a deeper attention than painting can provide", he explains.

This search for the subliminal is apparent in works such as *Bench*, where color and brushstroke suggest a definable subject but overpower the image to the point where it cannot be viewed as such. The title alone primes the viewer to recall a bench, but disconnected from the image as subject, the painting takes on its own objectivity. Similarly, *Batting Practice* presents a purple outline that hints of a singular depiction in time filled with a vibrancy and energy defined by the act of application itself while the soft, unfocused outlines of *Country Lane* create an ethereal space as if to mimic eyes adjusting to the natural light that seems to emanate from its core.

The fluidity and harmony of line and color gesturing at depicted images remains a constant in Derish's work, even when select pieces present more identifiable subjects.

In *Doppelganger*, Derish confronts the viewer with specter-like figures whose facial features remain mere insinuations and leave us wondering at the nature of their interaction while undeniably communicating a sense of psychological tension. Similar uncanny sentiments can be found in *Figures (The Park)*, where dark ambiguous entities stand amidst broad, green brushstrokes and dabs in hues of brilliant blue and luminescent orange. The eye constructs meaning yet the work evades a deterministic origin and seems to linger just outside of reality.

Derish received his Masters of Fine Art in Painting from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2014 and previously studied Visual Arts and Art History at Columbia University. A recipient of numerous fellowships, grants and awards, Derish has also studied in Tuscany, the Netherlands, Vermont, Cornell University, Pratt Institute and Yale University. He currently lives and works in New York City.

Maintaining a contemporary vision, Stuart & Co. Gallery strives to represent emerging and mid-career artists at the forefront of expression.

Since its inception in 2012, Stuart & Co. Gallery has been home to innovative, pioneering exhibitions across a multitude of media and genres. The gallery embraces multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary and cross-genre art forms in addition to traditional practices.

Please join Stuart & Co. Gallery for the opening reception of *Visions and Revisions* on Saturday, August 29th, 2015 from 7-9pm.

For more information, please contact Britney Lipton at (312) 487-1850 or via email at britney.lipton@stuartandco.com.