Galerie
JOYCE YAHOUDA
Gallery

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David Elliott

Lullaby

Painting

February 17 – March 26, 2011

Opening:

Saturday, February 19, 2011, 3-6 p.m.

Clairvoyant, 2010-11, oil and acrylic on canvas

For about 30 years, David Elliott has been developing a vast inventory of images: humans, animals, landscapes and pictograms get extracted from diverse sources including reference books from the sixties.

Several types of icons meet on the canvas; superimposed and assembled, they offer themselves as a theater of the mind that uses painting and its illusive nature.

The artist draws form the symbols of classical painting, taking inspiration in the vanitas' imagery of skulls, bouquets and still lives, evoking the life force as it moves from fecundity to mortality.

Ranging widely in size, these luminous and playful paintings metamorphose into cabinets of curiosities.

As he revisits the pictorial tradition of the memento mori, David Elliott composes a new universe filled with classical curiosa which he couples with popular objects and characters. His paintings alternately become boxes of tricks and cornucopias.

Conjuring multiple references from collage and pop art, these works evoke the paintings of Philip Guston as much as the films of Czech Jan Svankmajer.

Biography

Born in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, in 1953, David Elliott has lived and worked in Montreal since 1977.

Since 1974, Elliott's work has been presented in many institutions and galleries in Canada, including Musée des beaux-arts du Québec, the Saidye Bronfman Centre for the Arts in Montreal, Expression in Saint-Hyacinthe and Optica. His work has also been exhibited internationally, notably at the Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts in Taiwan and at the Museo d'arte Moderno in Mexico City for a retrospective exhibition. He has participated in events such as the Manifestation internationale d'art de Québec in 2003.
His works have been presented at Joyce Yahouda Gallery in 2004, 2007 and 2009.
In 2010, David Elliott was awarded a residency at the Conseil des arts et lettres du Québec's studio in New York City.

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