

Peintures

June 28 – August 11, 2012

Guest curator: Jean-Louis René

Opening:
Saturday, June 30, 4-6 p.m.

Artists : David Gagnon, Paul Hardy,
Jean-François Lauda et Jenna Meyers



Jenna Meyers, *Hot Tub Turbulence*, 2012
Oil on linen

“Peintures” presents four recent bodies of work of young artists quite distinct in their experience and practice, David Gagnon, Paul Hardy, Jean-François Lauda and Jenna Meyers.

The premise of the exhibition is based on a spontaneity in the process - i.e. present different emerging practices in a direct approach while moving away from the curatorial exercise. In other words, present practices of four young artists that are rich and fascinating in their discourse and approach.

Then, the thought to willingly and knowingly destabilize the viewer by making them link all four dissenting practices and therefore place him/her in a delicate position inside the object “Exhibition” seemed relevant. First I forced myself into the exercise by trustfully adhering to the process in which each practice was first considered separately, to be then exhibited and exposed next to three others. The confrontation actually creates a dialogue between the works.

The outcome of this exercise, so captivating to me, gathers under one medium (painting) four approaches that are divergent and reflexive in their discourses, and singular as interrelated in form.

The large expressionist formats of Jenna Meyers depict scenes of everyday life both mundane and intimate yet confronting and imbued with a strong sociological discourse. David Gagnon manipulates the discourse of representation of the image by using intricate devices to create a carefully designed series. Paul Hardy explores a formalist discourse by manipulating the paint using large formats that immerse the viewer into contemplative and complex universes. The series of works on paper by Jean-François Lauda deconstructs the formal compositions to investigate other irrational and intuitive spaces within the image”.

Jean-Louis René, guest curator

Biography

Jean-Louis René holds a BFA in art history and an MA in museology. He works for many organisations dedicated to contemporary visual arts including Occurrence, and occasionally collaborates with the Cultural Action and Partnerships Division of the City of Montreal. In 2012 He has organized several educational activities for the event *Collectionner* in le réseau Accès culture Montréal.

Jean-Louis René wants to sincerely thank the four artists who have agreed to participate in this project, the Gallery team and Claire Moeder for their patience and invaluable support, his friends for their advice and Joyce Yahouda for giving him this wonderful opportunity.