



For Immediate Release: Layer after layer after layer show what is underneath...

Gallery 1& 2 & 3: "THE MYSTERY OF PAINT"
new work by
JAMES AUSTIN MURRAY

Dates: May 25- June 24, 2007
Opening Reception: Friday, May 25, 7-9pm

Hours: Fri. 3-8, Sat. & Sun. 12-6pm or by appt.

Contact: **Dam, Stuhltrager Gallery**
38 Marcy Ave. Brooklyn. NY 11211
718-387-9818
www.damstuhltrager.com
info@damstuhltrager.com

Directions: L to Lorimer. Exit near token booth. Metropolitan under BQE. Left on Marcy. Distance from train: 3 bl



Peel back the layers of clothing and the skin underneath awakens. The pale canvas takes hold of the chance for some time in the sun. The landscape awakens from the previous winter, takes shape, blooms in color and introduces new life. It is May. James Austin Murray's second solo exhibit at Dam, Stuhltrager Gallery brings spring's energy to the gallery's walls.

Gallery 1, 2 & 3: "THE MYSTERY OF PAINT" new work by James Austin Murray

In James Austin Murray's current exhibit an underlining balance of "previous" vs "new" runs throughout the work, tying together canvases, works on paper and sculpture all created within the last year.

On the surface, Murray's images play with the concept of what is previously known and what is newly being divulged. Utilizing gesso on the surface, a material most often used as a supportive undercoating, Murray obscures, frames and abstracts his subjects. Beyond physical depth layers build character depth. Landscapes take on a personality, an identity, and reveal themselves to the viewer one glimpse at a time. A single place, such as a specific tree, is individually unique, with as many sides and subtiles in sharing itself as any portrait. Never divulging exactly the same picture through the layers with a second and third look, Murray asks the audience to reconsider a new perspective with each viewing. As Murray states, "These things that are hidden become as important as any. Everything around us has more of a story than what is available to us."

Underneath the physical layering of gesso, paint and graphite emerges an emotional context further exploring the issues of "previous" vs "new". The artist gently celebrates what is present and honors the complexity of what remains hidden of his subjects. In respect to their own nature, the images are gentle, thoughtful, reserved and full of possibility. The images are always inherently themselves, yet consistently let those around know different parts of their essence, offering a better understanding of what one is looking at... And quite possibly a better understanding how one interprets what they encounter. Murray's works remind the viewer that one must be open to seeing something anew, as nothing exists exactly as it is perceived or remembered. Really looking is constantly an exercise in reconsidering what it was you thought you saw.

OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES Bands heating up the music scene make summer cooler with an outdoor concert series in Dam, Stuhltrager's sculpture garden. Spend a night or two or three under the open sky and catch up with the next wave of rising stars...

Saturday, June 2nd, 7pm: This Frontier Needs Heroes, Vague Angels, Paul Duncan, Damon McMahon.

\$5 For show dates, times, entire series lineup or to hear the bands visit: www.damstuhltrager.com/listenup.htm