

BRIDGETTE MAYER GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bridgette Mayer Gallery
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Bridgette Mayer Gallery announces the kickoff to its 2013 Fall Season:
Presence by Tim McFarlane will be on view September 5 -
October 5, 2013, with an opening reception Friday, September 6, 6:00 – 8:30 PM.
In the Vault Room: *A Leopard Doesn't Change Her Spots* by Stuart Netsky

Bridgette Mayer Gallery is pleased to announce a solo exhibition of new paintings by Tim McFarlane. *Presence* will be on view from September 5 through October 5, 2013, with an opening reception Friday, September 6, from 6:00 - 8:30 pm. Stuart Netsky will have a concurrent solo show in the Vault Room entitled *A Leopard Doesn't Change Her Spots*.

McFarlane's new and recent paintings consist of repeated, hard-edged linear gestures used to form labyrinthine threads of color in successive layers, leading to an image that is the result of repeated accretion and deletion of marks. Whereas his earlier works featured curvilinear strokes of colors that appeared to escape the boundaries of their surface, the new paintings have a more architectural rigidity and more vigorous energy in their gestures.

As a starting point for these paintings, McFarlane examines commonplace themes such as his physical and sensory relationship with his immediate environmental surroundings, with other people, and with himself. While building up layers through painting, scraping, sanding, and repainting, additional influences include graphic design, pattern systems, and musical rhythm.

Stuart Netsky's exhibition *A Leopard Doesn't Change Her Spots* is, at its core, based on Marie Antoinette. Netsky looks to her life of extravagance, superficiality, excess, beauty and betrayal into new sculptural works and floor mats. In these works, he appropriates both art historical references and icons from popular culture – as disparate as Lucio Fontana and Michael Jackson. With these icons, Netsky emphasizes the underlying violence and sexual symbolism that prevailed under the reign of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette. He is particularly interested in the rampant hypocrisy and extravagant superficiality of their era. In fact, the show's title is derived from an 18th century caricature of Marie Antoinette as a leopard published during the downfall of Louis XVI. As France was crumbling, Marie Antoinette made empty promises of reform which never came to fruition, and the French people depicted her as one who would not change her ways.

Stuart Netsky has had over a dozen solo exhibitions in Philadelphia and New York since 1990. His first museum survey, organized by the Institute of Contemporary Art in Philadelphia in 1993, included a multi-part installation referencing the AIDS epidemic and issues of vanity and mortality. Netsky's work has been in shows across the U.S. including *Mind Over Matter: Reworking Women's Work* (Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, NM); *Influence, Anxiety and Gratitude* (List Visual Arts Center, MIT, Cambridge, MA); and *S(how)* (Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA).

Gallery hours are Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. & by appointment. For additional information please contact Bridgette Mayer at (p) 215-413-8893 (f) 215-413-2283

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