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MICAH GANSKE

PICTURES LAST LONGER

OCTOBER 6 – NOVEMBER 3, 2007
76 GRAND STREET

Pictures Last Longer, an exhibition of new paintings by Micah Ganske opens Saturday, October 6th at Deitch Projects.

“The paintings of Micah Ganske are powerfully ambiguous. Ganske’s work can be seen as optimistically pessimistic, cynically sincere, or epically banal. Micah Ganske’s work feels true to the complex world we live in where nothing is absolute, and where few problems are solved without moral compromise.

The technique and process that Ganske has developed is possibly just as elusive as his subject matter. Seven years ago he gave up stretching and priming his surfaces and has since been perfecting a method of stain painting that is unlike anything being done in the art world today. The method of paint application can be so invisible that his brush-applied, acrylic on muslin paintings are often initially mistaken as ink-jet prints. The precision and complexity of his process comes at the price of huge time commitments. Larger pieces can take him upwards of four to five months to complete.”

-Colette Robbins

The artist describes his approach to painting as follows:

“Like the way a photograph of a happy memory is somehow heart-breaking, I want the beauty in my painting to be somehow horrible; a beauty so saturated that it has begun to burn itself out, disappearing. I want the world that my work exists in to be a streamlined synthesis of all visual stimulation I have ever taken in; nothing sacred, all sources brought down to the same level. If the personal, the sentimental, the profane and the spiritual aspects of an individual were fused to create one cumulative aesthetic, the resulting work would be undeniably unique—this is what I strive for most. In this day and age many would argue that it is pointless and arrogant to even entertain the possibility of making a painting that was truly original, but I say those with this outlook are simply too lazy and untalented to even make the attempt. It is a challenge that only seems insurmountable because we have relied too heavily on the history of painting to light our way. Our society and culture have gone through so many radical changes with the advent of new technologies and ways of sharing information that it is ridiculous

painting has stayed so static. If something original is to be attained, one must synthesize not only aspects of the history of art, but all things recent culture has brought to us, no matter how useless or vapid they may seem."

Micah Ganske received his BFA from The Art Institute of Chicago and an MFA from Yale University in 2005. His work was included in *The Garden Party* at Deitch Projects in 2006. This is his first solo exhibition in New York.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT JASMINE LEVETT AT
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