

76 GRAND STREET NEW YORK NY 10013



DZINE
THE BEAUTIFUL STRUGGLE
SEPTEMBER 7 – OCTOBER 19, 2008
DEITCH STUDIOS
4-40 44TH DRIVE (ON THE EAST RIVER)
LONG ISLAND CITY

Deitch Studios is pleased to announce the first New York exhibition of the work of Dzine. *The Beautiful Struggle* will feature four new paintings, which combine the mandalic and psychedelic imagery that emerge from his meditative painting process as well as new sculptures exploring the middle ground between Chicano lowrider street culture and contemporary art.

Dzine's forms and color palette are inspired by Buddhist traditions, which employ the mandala as a representation of one's universe, a tightly composed movement wherein the scrupulous center represents what's most essential to one's spirituality and the quotidian envelope the periphery. Using his own visual lexicon, Dzine seeks to combine two different types of mandalas, two different movements, simultaneously: the *ghrbha-dhatu* or womb

world, which moves from the one to the many, and the *vajra-dhatu* or diamond world from the many into one. Creating a kaleidoscope of tightly geometric and meticulous shapes, Dzine's mandalas are at once painstakingly specific and flamboyant. To extend the illusion of movement, the artist applies a thick layer of clear resin to create a slick surface or thousands of glass beads, off which light bounces brilliantly. These reflective and decorative materials offer an alluring depth to otherwise super-flat representations.

The show's sculptural elements relate to Chicano street culture famed for its astonishing bikes, cars and boats fashioned as personal art and status objects to be flaunted on the streets. Drawing on his Puerto Rican heritage and collaborating with lowrider fabricators, Dzine creates his own ornate sculptures that boast a

mixture of custom painting, engraving, 24-karat gold plating, audio and visual components, and a range of embellishments selected for their utility as well as beauty. Thoughtfully appropriating these elements to realize something entirely unique, Dzine's creations romp within a rich middle ground between the pristine, cool of an art gallery and the seediness of the street.

The Beautiful Struggle will include four new large-scale paintings, a custom engraved 24-

karat and chrome-plated plaque, a wall installation with an embellished turntable, neon, automotive paint and multi-faceted mirrored surfaces, custom wallpaper, a newly fabricated boat, a custom Lowrider bike sculpture and *Pimp Juice*, the Lowrider '93 Cadillac Fleetwood produced for Deitch Projects at Art Basel Miami Beach 2007.

Deitch Studios is open to the public Thursday through Sunday, 2 PM to 8 PM.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT JASMINE LEVETT AT
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