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Land For Sale

Eli August Tamarkin
Bard College

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Land For Sale, By Eli Tamarkin

Land For Sale, is an experiment in painting, an exploration of technique and concept. This series of paintings represents an attempt to discover my artistic interests, voice and practice. To be quite honest, my ideas are varied and still coming into focus. My interests are split between the representational and the purely aesthetic. Are these worlds in opposition?

I am trying to work out my attraction to the figure as a means of conceptual and aesthetic investigation. The paintings in this show illustrate a series of carefully curated scenes. I have meticulously composed each of these pictures. Models were thoughtfully positioned and then photographed. However, my thinking behind these paintings is bisected by divergent intentions. On one hand, these works play with narrative. The images bear particular symbolic weight. They represent a negotiation of my anxieties: sexual, social and economic. They function as an inquiry into my desires, fears, oppressions and pride. That said, I am also concerned with a certain pure aestheticism. I believe that these paintings can operate as exercises in abstraction. To some extent, the value of my subjects is in their form as opposed to their representation. The figures and their surrounding architecture simply provide a basis of line form and color.

My interests are divided between the aesthetic and conceptual. These works ultimately question the opposition between representation and abstraction. Is it possible to divorce these images from the practical world, can they be viewed in the idealistic space of pure aesthetics. At the end of the day, I would call these paintings the residue of a year's worth of practice. They are the manifestation of a continuing personal dialogue.





