



JENKINS JOHNSON GALLERY

Celebrate Summer

July 24 – August 31, 2007



Sonya Sklaroff, Green Light on Lafayette Streets, 2008, oil on panel, 36 x 48 inches



Julia Fullerton-Batten, Beach Houses, 2006, lambda print, 40 x 54 inches

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Mon-Fri 11-5 www.jenkinsjohnsongallery.com

Jenkins Johnson Gallery is pleased to announce “Celebrate Summer” opening in San Francisco and New York July 24 and continuing through August 31.

“Celebrate Summer” is a pictorial montage of a most loved and hated season. A season that brings out the best and worst in us, a season that melts away a person’s fears and inhibitions, one that can push us to misery and stir hostility in sweltering heat, one that slows us to contemplation and relaxation, but also a season of fun and celebration. This series of work, presented from a variety of artistic point of views, highlights a lovely kind of summer that we all yearn for come a dark day in January.

Works by artists Sonya Sklaroff and Wade Reynolds depict that unshielded quiet of hot summer afternoons. Sklaroff observes a hot lazy day in downtown Manhattan in “Green Light on Lafayette Street”. The artist’s dramatic sense of perspective pulls the viewer into a day when the city that never sleeps is hushed by the strong summer heat, a solitary figure strolls on a Manhattan street corner, a row of tenements reflecting the bright afternoon sun, contrasted against the large shadow in the foreground. California-based painter Wade Reynolds captures a tranquil summer day in “Tahoe am.” In this curiously cool and satisfying work sunlight dances on smoothed rocks as water laps against the shore of California’s spectacular Lake Tahoe. Executed by one of the top American realist painters it is an inspiring glimpse through the artist’s lens, masterfully capturing a serene image of natural beauty.

Juxtaposing scale and subject, Julia Fullerton-Batten’s “Beach Houses” brings the viewer to a crossroads of realities. Large- scale figures calmly sit and stand amongst residential vacation homes wearing only their bathing suits, thus projecting a normalcy in the midst of a startling landscape. The journey the viewer must embark on as she settles this discrepancy raises dialogues on escapism and perception. Batten uses the paradox to challenge the viewer and force them to define their own reality and that of the figures. Z.Z. Wei’s “Crow’s Eye View II,” however, explicitly places the viewer in his vision of reality. The landscape of the Pacific Northwest is Wei’s inspiration and vehicle to launch the viewer into his world. The big skies and expansive horizons bring a sense of exploration and adventure to Wei’s large scale canvases as his compositions and use of familiar subjects lead one into the work. Bold colors and a strong sense of scale grants the viewer immediate access to these idyllic and bucolic landscapes.

The 2008 exhibition will showcase: Jack Balas, Katherine Chang Liu, Gerald Forster, Wes Hempel, Misty Keasler, Mallory Lake, Rene Lynch, John Nava, Scott Prior, Chris Raecker, Wade Reynolds, Kay Ruane, Sonya Sklaroff, Don Williams, Sherrie Wolf, Michael Workman, and Z.Z. Wei.

Concurrently “Beyond Representation” will be extended through August 31 as a compliment to “Celebrate Summer.”