

ANTON KERN GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Charlie Hammond

Very Still Life

May 31 – July 6, 2007

May 9, 2007, New York—Anton Kern Gallery is pleased to present the first solo exhibition of work by Glasgow based artist Charlie Hammond in the United States. Through the use and manipulation of an unlikely range of material – rocks, rags and gingham tablecloths – the artist presents ‘Very Still Life’, a new group of framed oil paintings.



A longing for a simpler existence permeates subject, material and process in the works on view. The painting titled ‘Outofcountydowntshifter (macaroni style)’ is created by inserting a paintbrush in the end of a drill, with Hammond’s ‘macaroni style’ emerging as eccentric lines in the painting’s background. This deliberate appropriation of mark making is intended as a wry take on modernist values, which Hammond acknowledges all the while maintaining his tongue firmly in his cheek.

In ‘Sculpture of Stone Thrower or Technological Retreat’, a hulking figure is conjured from rocks and oil paint, fused through a crude process of piercing the canvas with actual stones. As in much of his work, Hammond invents a controlled situation that allows for a spontaneous and playful approach to image making. The end result is a conversation of technique and title.

Although tied to a number of art historical references, such as artist and essayist Asger Jorn’s interest in the idea of object subjectivity or the modernist view of uncontrollable abandon, Hammond’s work appears freshly excavated from an archeological dig of high art aesthetics. His work demonstrates how images reveal themselves through the most basic marks and gestures.

Charlie Hammond lives and works in Glasgow, Scotland. Recent exhibitions include a 2007 solo show at Sorcha Dallas, Glasgow, and the group exhibition ‘Keep Passing the Open Windows or Happiness’ at Galerie Gisela Capitain, Cologne (2006) and ‘Expanded Painting 2’ at The 3rd Prague Biennale (2007). Forthcoming shows include “You will be re-materialized through your secrets” at Michael Benevento/Orange Group in Los Angeles this summer.

The exhibition at **Anton Kern Gallery** opens concurrent with **Don Van Vliet** (Capitan Beefheart) on Thursday, May 31 and will run through Saturday, July 6, 2007. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am - 6 pm. For further information and images, please contact Christoph Gerozissis or Michael Clifton at (t) 212.367.9663, (f) 212.367.8135 or email: info@antonkerngallery.com.

Upcoming exhibition: Jonas Wood (July 12 – August 10)

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