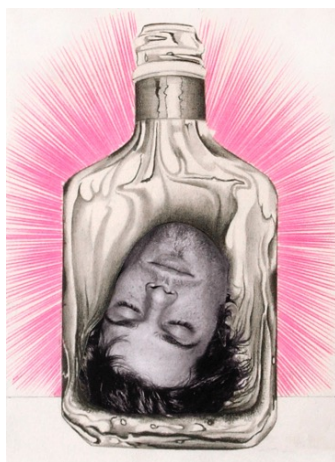


DEREK ELLER GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



David Dupuis

Green, Green Grass of Home

March 25 – April 30, 2011

Opening Reception: Friday, March 25, 6 - 8 pm

Derek Eller Gallery is pleased to present recent works on paper by David Dupuis.

For this exhibition, Dupuis expands upon his exploration of mortality and the human condition by incorporating personal reactions to current events, specifically the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. A few years ago, the artist found himself at the Atlanta airport, a hub for military deployment overseas, in the midst of hundreds of soldiers in camouflage. Awakened from a state of denial about the United States and war, Dupuis was inspired to begin integrating real world affairs into his art practice. Where once skulls and self-portraits populated his drawings, now the bodies of anonymous young soldiers clad in uniform have become the basis of his visual language.

Named for a poetic folk song from the 1960's, *Green, Green Grass of Home* has four monumental color pencil and collage drawings at its foundation. Emotional and visually erotic, these works overwhelm with their massive scale and dense patterning. One work, entitled *Young Americans* pictures collaged heads of young men engulfed in a swirling blue inferno which references the flames of war. Another, called *Tomorrow Never Knows*, depicts bright pink poppies and a hint of camouflage in a sea of green grass, an allusion to the destruction in Afghanistan, both through the war and the burgeoning heroin industry.

A work entitled *Green, Green Grass of Home* as well as one called *Idumea* depict the bodies of camouflaged soldiers immersed in dense fields of grass. In these dream-like scenes, an immense and untamed landscape swallows up the human forms. It's almost as if the sheer force of nature is capable of overwhelming man's petty grievances made manifest through war and violence. This notion, espoused by filmmakers like Werner Herzog and Terrence Malick, is a central theme in Dupuis' work and lends a cinematic quality to his vast panoramas.

David Dupuis' work was recently featured in *Other People: Portraits from the Grunwald and Hammer Collections* at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles. His work is included in a number of museum collections including New Museum of Contemporary Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. Dupuis lives and works in New York City. This will be his seventh solo exhibition at the gallery.

Derek Eller Gallery is located at 615 West 27th Street, between 11th and 12th Avenues. Hours are Tuesday - Saturday from 11am - 6pm. For further information or visuals, please contact the gallery at 212.206.6411 or visit www.derekeller.com

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