

TIMOTHY TOMPKINS SOLO EXHIBITION

OPENS WITH ARTIST RECEPTION AT HEATHER JAMES FINE ART ON APRIL 18, 2009



(April 3, 2009)—Palm Desert, CA.—Heather James Fine Art is pleased to announce a solo exhibition by artist Timothy Tompkins, which opens on Saturday, April 18th from 6-8 p.m. with an artist's reception. The public is invited to attend but asked to RSVP to Kimberly@heatherjames.com or by calling 760-346-8926.

Timothy Tompkins was born in Long Beach in 1967. He received his BFA from Otis College of Art and Design in 2003 and currently lives and works in Los Angeles.

Innovating the general method of oil painting, Tompkins employs thin aluminum panels rather than traditional stretched canvas to execute his pieces. He relies on high gloss commercial enamels to preserve the liquid aesthetic of the paint after it has dried, an effect responsible for the contoured appearance of his paintings. Tompkins believes this quality gives the paintings "a transitory effect...as if the image is still forming." To further abstract the paintings, Tompkins uses a limited color palette, giving his pieces the remarkable appearance of high-contrast photographs.

Inspired by media images, Tompkins' paintings are intended to "give extended life to what are considered 'disposable

images'," thereby prioritizing the traumatic over the superficial. His paintings of natural disasters, including his pieces of the effects of wildfires, "reflect the human condition on a global level," manifesting society's skewed connection to nature. Tompkins' pieces allude to a society dominated by material needs and consumerism, forming a connection with the more classical themes of painting which communicates the struggles and rewards of the human condition.

Tompkins' most recent exhibitions in New York, San Francisco and Verona, Italy received high critical praise. Heather James will show highlight pieces from Tompkins' various series of paintings, including the new Nebula series.

Heather James Fine Art is located at 45-188 Portola Avenue in Palm Desert and will feature a wide array of art ranging from Impressionist and Modern art to Post-War and Contemporary, American, Latin American, Old Master, Photography and Design. The new Fine Art gallery is an expansion and evolution of the current Heather James Art & Antiquities, which continues to operate in the El Paseo location and provide clients with the finest in cultural antiquities and ethnographic art from all corners of the world.