

Jeremy DePrez, Jonathan Lasker, Zachary Leener

June 6- July 4th 2015

Opening Reception: Saturday, June 5th, 6-8pm

Retrospective is pleased to present a group show by Jeremy DePrez, Jonathan Lasker, and Zachary Leener.

Jeremy DePrez's oddly shaped, idiosyncratic paintings oscillate between representation and abstraction. DePrez directly engages the realm of the everyday, by utilizing its minutiae as visual fodder for the framework of his paintings. As he deftly moves through image, object and abstraction DePrez defines the material world in the most precisely imprecise way. Each work can be traced back to a "thing in the world" yet what that thing isn't always readily understood making them more complicated and most importantly more curious.

Jonathan Lasker will present paintings and studies from the 1980s-2012. Lasker explores painting in terms of its most basic elements: color, line, texture and form, and deals with the complexity and the complementarity of the relationship between figure and ground. The exuberance and quality of his paintings evoke elements of play through bright colors and childlike gestures that meld languages associated to both sophisticated abstraction and free-will mark making. The calculated and yet spontaneous nature of Lasker's work can be traced through his preparatory drawings and resulting painting. Lasker's compositions are meticulously worked in advance of each painting in small-scale detailed sketches and studies. The studies utilize the practice of automatic drawing and subconscious imagery through using the format of the scribble and various levels of drawing values, jockeying back and forth between unconscious and conscious states.

Zachary Leener's abstract ceramic sculptures reflect his promiscuous relationship to the material through the repetition of vague bodily forms. Skewed far from direct human representation, these sculptures evoke a sort of cartoon phallacy -- and when placed in proximity, glazed protruding cylinders and rounded orifices seem to be in direct negotiation with one another. Leener's sculptures appear as a comedy on tools, toys and artifacts whose curves and contours rub up against the formal nature of the plinth.

The exhibition will run concurrently with a show of works by Tal R at 727 Warren Street Hudson, NY, presented in collaboration with Cheim & Read Gallery and Tif Sigfrids Gallery.