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CURATOR'S PICKS

Part of the role of being a curator at the New Museum of Contemporary Art is to stay aware of what is happening in all areas of contemporary culture. In this section of the web site, the New Museum curatorial staff shares some of their favorite gallery exhibitions, films, book, plays and more! This section is frequently updated, so check back regularly.

Tim Gardner

303 Gallery
 through February 22, 2003

Tim Gardner has a singular ability to render the skin of things, whether it is literally human flesh or, instead, the surface of objects (such as clothing, mountains, or valleys) with an uncanny photorealistic quality. In fact, Gardner uses actual photographs that he has taken himself, or which have been given to him by friends, for his source material.

What's amazing is that Gardner does not jettison his watercolor medium even as he achieves nearly tromp l'oeil levels of realism. He continues to relish the nuances that can be achieved through watercolors, and he deftly accomplishes the twin goals of producing images that are both rigorously mimetic and yet still effusively watercolor. Using subtle gradations and softening of color at the images' edges, for instance, Gardner often chooses to paint fluid subjects (like water and atmosphere) that seem to lean into their innate "watercoloriness" and, thus, elude the crisp coolness ascribed to most photorealism.

Watercolors are not often the stuff of "fine" art, but Gardner helps to dispel this myth. In his third solo show at 303 Gallery, he addresses archetypes of masculinity-bodybuilders, bad boys flipping their middle fingers, and even a statue of Vietnam Vet's. He also continues to stake out landscapes, mostly sublime, while linking them to a kind of complicated, sometimes unstable, masculinity-this is Gardner's most compelling subject matter. In *Untitled (S. with Mount Robson)*, the mountain overwhelms a young man, practically emasculating him in its looming embrace.

-AP

Video Acts: Single Channel Works from the Collection of Pamela and Richard Kramlich and New Art Trust
 P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center (an affiliate of the Museum of

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS ////



Carroll Dunham

October 31, 2002 - February 9, 2003
 For the first major museum survey of this highly influential American painter, the New Museum will present 33 paintings by Carroll Dunham spanning a twenty year period. Dunham's independence from prevailing stylistic norms and his idiosyncratic combination of biomorphism, cartooning, and figuration have dramatically expanded the vocabulary of American painting. ////



Super-ficial The Surfaces of Architecture on a Digital Age
 January 31, 2003 - April 6, 2003
 Zenith Media Lounge

Super-ficial explores the impact digital technologies on architectural practice, presenting recent work by architects who explore the notion of surface. Projects by dbox, Jürgen Mayer H., Michael Silver and Pet