

SCHWARZ CONTEMPORARY

ANNE SCHWARZ
Sanderstraße 28
12047 Berlin

mail@schwarz-contemporary.com

Press Release

Gallery SCHWARZ CONTEMPORARY opens in Berlin
Opening exhibition: Eddie Martinez—Drawings, 2005–2011

SCHWARZ CONTEMPORARY is pleased to present as its opening exhibition a show with over 20 drawings from 2005 to 2011 by the American artist Eddie Martinez (born in 1977).

Martinez, who has so far been known mainly as a painter, also makes highly idiosyncratic drawings, creating a distinct and very important group of works in this genre. Martinez himself says that he draws every day and everywhere, also when travelling, reacting directly to his environment. Thus in his drawings, we find references to classic modernism as well as to some of the greats of recent art history such as Andy Warhol and Philip Guston, as well as elements of street art and the graffiti of his hometown New York, or figures and quotations from the popular and everyday culture of the US. In his work, Donald Duck or Nikes may encounter a Warholian banana or bright color fields. The result are suggestive and frequently ironic drawings, often in bright colors, whose rawness and sensuality are sometimes underlined by old, stained, and dirty paper that might be restored with adhesive tape.

Martinez' works on paper are peopled by idiosyncratic personnel and objects—frequently we encounter figures with large helmets or fruit on their head, birds wearing clothes, or colorful skulls (as vases), bouquets of flowers, and palm trees. Sometimes there is interaction between them; in other works, they stand directly next to each other or are presented on a table. Repeatedly, short stairs lead to nowhere, or to obscure buildings. Some of the whimsical figures appear repeatedly so that the beholder might get the impression that what we see are illustrations of an imaginary grotesque theater play—an impression underlined by the often stage-like spaces with a deeply black background.

The exhibition Eddie Martinez: Drawings, 2005–2011 at SCHWARZ CONTEMPORARY is Eddie Martinez' first solo show in Germany.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a richly illustrated catalog in German and English, with an essay by Clemens von Lucius and an interview with Eddie Martinez by Anthony Byrt.

For further information, please contact the gallery anytime:

+49 - 30 - 612 89 902

mail@schwarz-contemporary.com

The exhibition will be on show from March 24 - May 7, 2011.