

PRESS RELEASE

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Wilhelm Sasnal

T-ów

January 16 – February 15 2003

Anton Kern Gallery is proud to present T-ów, the first solo show of Polish artist Wilhelm Sasnal in New York.



Wilhelm Sasnal's painting underscores the gaps between reality and representation, memory and fantasy, solidity and intangibility. His work presents a queasy palette akin to the off-kilter print quality of a trashy fanzine. In all of Sasnal's paintings the motif is derived from a preexisting picture - the memory of a photograph - rather than from an empirical or even imagined source. Figuration and abstraction hold equal footing with the viscosity and delivery of paint in Sasnal's canvases. This constant shift in technique and style evades easy categorization and permits the artist, and viewers, to take pleasure in its variety.

Sasnal embraces an easy relationship to the mediated image. By drawing upon cinematic conventions through a reliance on photography, the artist cultivates an unsettling sensation of detachment in his paintings. For this show Sasnal selected a graphic image, the abbreviation of his hometown in Poland, for the invitation card. Throughout his work graphic and image are not juxtaposed but intertwined. Sasnal poaches a myriad of westernized topographies, thereby allowing the appropriated image to mold the praxis of his painting.

Sasnal's work has been exhibited in group shows including *Urgent Painting*, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, *Painting on the Move* at the Kunsthalle Basel, 4th Gwangju Biennial in Gwangju and the 1st Tirana Biennial in Tirana, Albania among others. He is currently preparing solo shows for the MUHKA in Antwerp, the Kunsthalle Zurich and Kunstverein Muenster for 2003.

Opening Thursday, January 16th, 2003 from 6-8pm. The show will run through February 15th. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am-6 pm. For further information, please contact Fernanda Arruda or Michael Clifton at tel: 212.367.9663, fax 212.367.8135 or email: akern@jps.net.

Extended Dates - On November 14 at 7:00 pm, the Anton Kern Gallery presented a performance by **Matt Mullican**. The artist performed "under hypnosis". This was his first performance under hypnosis in New York City since The Kitchen in 1982. Documentation and ephemera from the performance will remain on view through February 15, 2003

February 20 – March 21, 2003 – New works by Saul Fletcher.