

PRESS RELEASE

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“*Square*” by Eberhard Havekost at Anton Kern Gallery

May 9 – June 15, 2002

Anton Kern Gallery is proud to present “*Square*”, Eberhard Havekost’s third solo show in New York. The artist will be showing paintings whose subjects include building façades, mobile homes, and exteriors of houses as well as their interior scenarios.

Square and plane shapes float in front of our eyes, flattening the radiance of their imagery. Havekost reduces objects, people, and ambient into pure forms. Unavoidably, the artist guides us to what he thinks is relevant. He shows us details, but never reveals the whole scenario or object. Fields of colors and blurred edges define the precise style of the artist.

Havekost’s work could be described as figurative, yet close to abstraction. What he really does is confuse the spectator with a spatial illusion. One has the feeling of looking through the lens of a camera, a surveillance camera perhaps. Directing and filtering the image, the artist does not follow any narrative or concrete theme. We are left in obscurity; it is in the eye of the beholder to catalyze the essence of his work.

Even though the work sometimes looks like realistic mannerism, suggesting the use of digital technique, it is done in free hand. Attempting to confuse the viewer, Havekost abuses the experience of overlapping pixels. With an anti-gesture and a certain coolness, the paintings seduce, but not please. The sense of loss is continuous. In a dramatic way one feels as if they skipped a moment. Lacking personality, the work is disconcerting, turning viewer into victim. It offers no escape.

His most recent solo shows include The Museu de Serralves in Porto, Portugal, *Fenster-Fenster* at Kunstmuseum in Luzern and *Pressure*, Galerie für Zeitgenössische Kunst in Leipzig. His work has also been featured in many group shows such as *Painting at the Edge of the World* at The Walker Art Center in Minneapolis; *Gut aufgelegt* at the Kunsthaus in Hamburg and *Goldener, Der Springer, Das kalte Herz* at the White Cube 2 in London.

Opening Thursday May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2002 from 6-8 pm. The show will run until June 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Regular gallery hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 am - 6 pm.

For further information, please contact Fernanda Arruda or Argot Murelius at t.212.367.9663, f. 212.3678135 or email [akern@jps.net](mailto:akern@jps.net).

June 22 - July 26, 2002 – New work by Lara Schnitger.