

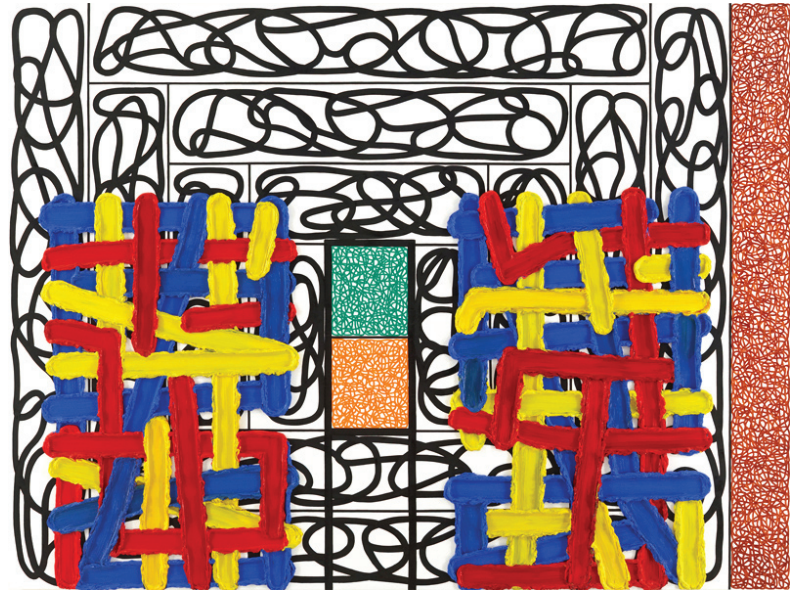
JONATHAN LASKER

Recent Paintings

25 February — 3 April 2010

Reception for the artist:

Thursday, 25 February 2010, 6–8 P.M.



Jonathan Lasker
The Inability to Sublimate, 2009
 oil on linen
 75 x 100 in. (190.5 x 254 cm)

Venice, CA – L.A. Louver is pleased to present an exhibition of recent paintings by **Jonathan Lasker**. This is Lasker’s first solo show in Los Angeles since his debut exhibition at L.A. Louver in 1995.

“I often think of my paintings as a form of image kit...which offer components of paintings as clues pointing the viewer, not to a finished narrative, but rather to a self-awareness of how one construes a painting.”

-- Jonathan Lasker

Exhibiting internationally for three decades, Lasker emerged at the end of the 1970s to challenge and redefine abstraction at a time when painting was considered obsolete. Defying categorization, Lasker’s paintings combine precision and elements of abstraction with a physical paint handling. His highly individualized, post-modern works have positioned Lasker at the forefront of artists who continue to investigate the possibilities of painting after Minimalism.

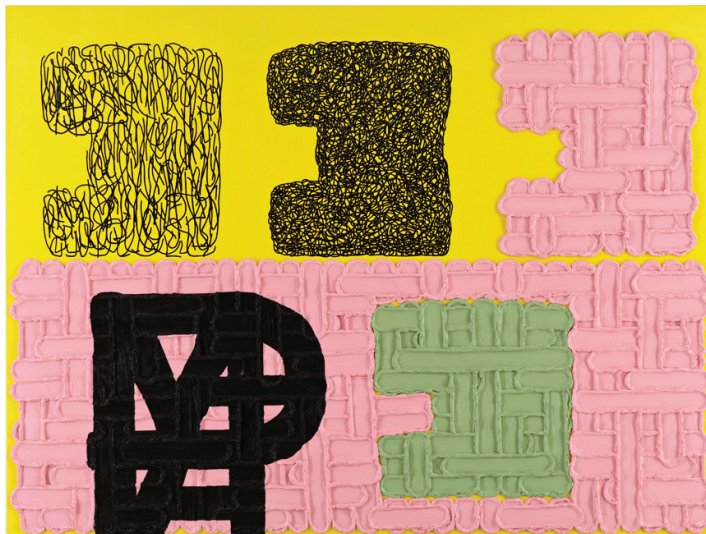
Confronting subconscious automatic drawing with conscious mark making, and the gestural with the geometric, Lasker uses both thin and thickly applied paint that he backlights with a stark white or off white ground. His colors are intense, disjunctive and sometimes unsettling. Thick strokes of primary or pastel colors are applied over a flat ground, and black scribbled and linear marks. He favors the positioning of heavily impastoed forms along the lower edge of the canvas, where they hover between the space of the painting and that of the viewer. In this series Lasker continues to develop his personal language, creating paintings that ambiguously refer to, but do not define pictorial space.

Lasker's titles offer poetic parallels to the paintings: such as *Making Space*, 2009; *The Divergence of Art and Culture*, 2009 and *Hidden Identity* (in which he embeds his name within the black hash marks). The exhibition includes thirteen paintings that embrace the full range of scale in which Lasker likes to work: from the intimate: 12 x 16 inches, to those measuring 6 x 8 feet or more.

A fully illustrated catalogue will be published to document this exhibition.

Born in New Jersey, Jonathan Lasker attended the School of Visual Arts in New York and the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, California.

Lasker has had numerous solo exhibitions throughout North America and Europe, including the Witte de With Centre for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam, Holland (1993); the Kunsthalle Bielefeld, Germany (traveled to the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Holland, and the Kunstverein St., Gallen, Switzerland 1997-1998); the Forum for Contemporary Art, St. Louis, Missouri (traveled to the Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery Toronto, Canada; Rose Art Museum, Waltham, Massachusetts; and the Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, Alabama 1999-2000). In 2003, Lasker was awarded a major survey exhibition at the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain, which was also presented at K-20 Kunstammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Dusseldorf, Germany. Recent shows include Klædefabrik, Odense, Denmark and Pori Art Museum, Pori, Finland (2005) and the Portland Art Museum, Oregon (2007-2008).



Jonathan Lasker
An Image of the Self, 2009
 oil on linen
 81 x 108 in. (205.7 x 274.3 cm)



Jonathan Lasker
Scene and Signs, 2009
 oil on canvas board
 12 x 16 in. (30.5 x 40.6 cm)

Lasker's paintings are included in many private and public collections including Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York; The British Library, London, England; Corcoran Gallery of Art and Hirshhorn Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; Eli Broad Foundation and Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California; Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden; Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany; and Whitney Museum of American Art, New York.

Jonathan Lasker lives and works in New York City and Munich, Germany.

L.A. Louver is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Validated parking available.

Further information and visuals please contact:
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