



**NEW YORK ACADEMY OF ART PRESENTS *THE BIG PICTURE*  
FEATURING VINCENT DESIDERIO, ERIC FISCHL, NEO RAUCH, JENNY SAVILLE, and MARK TANSEY**

**Exhibition on view January 28 – March 2, 2014**  
**Opening Reception – Tuesday, January 28, 2014 from 6-8pm**

The **New York Academy of Art** is pleased to present *The Big Picture*, a group show featuring **Vincent Desiderio, Eric Fischl, Neo Rauch, Jenny Saville** and **Mark Tansey**. The exhibition examines the use of scale in contemporary figurative painting and features out-sized work, the largest measuring 38 feet long. *The Big Picture* artists, all active in the Academy's community as critics, teachers or mentors, often use monumentality to explore their ideas.

**Vincent Desiderio**, who teaches at the Academy, presents his large triptych *Quixote*. First shown as a work-in-progress in 2007, the painting employs allegory to reveal its narrative.

Senior Critic **Eric Fischl** uses scale to magnify the intimacy of Krefeld Project Living Room Scene 1 and add a dramatic immediacy to the bullfighting arena in *Corrida in Ronda 4*.

The work of **Neo Rauch**, a mentor of Academy students at the school's Leipzig residency program, has been described by Roberta Smith, as having the ability to "effortlessly move between material and representation." Seen on a grand scale, as in *Hausmeister*, Rauch's idiosyncratic amalgam of realism uses traditional figurative painting to lure the viewer into his half-hidden world.

The loaded brush and full-body gestures of Senior Critic and Master Class instructor **Jenny Saville** are most often associated with the Abstract Expressionists. By turning the lens on the human body in works such as *Bleach*, Saville both questions and validates the audacity of the New York School.

Academy guest lecturer **Mark Tansey** ensnares the viewer in a web of conflicting visual systems. In *Coastline Measure*, Tansey uses a muralist's style to create an ironic narrative on a grand scale.

Eric Fischl says of the show's title, "I take it to be ironic. It emphasizes the distinction between size and *scale*, the proper use of which make a work dynamic and the experience profound. In today's image-saturated, electronically-mediated world, many artists simply choose between S, M or L."

*The Big Picture* is curated by **Peter Drake**, Dean of Academic Affairs and organized by **Elizabeth Hobson**, Director of Exhibitions. *The Big Picture* is generously sponsored by Cadogan Tate Fine Art. A variety of public programs, including artist talks, will be presented in conjunction with the exhibition. For more information visit [nyaa.edu/exhibitions](http://nyaa.edu/exhibitions).

**About the New York Academy of Art**

The New York Academy of Art is a not-for-profit graduate school that combines intensive technical training with active critical discourse. In the belief that rigorously trained artists are best able to realize their artistic vision, Academy students learn to master traditional methods and techniques and are encouraged to use these skills to make vital contemporary art.

**Gallery Information**

Wilkinson Gallery at the New York Academy of Art is located at 111 Franklin Street between West Broadway and Church in Tribeca. Transportation options: A, C, E train to Canal Street; 1 train to Franklin Street. The gallery is free and open to the public from 2:00-8:00pm or by appointment. It is closed Wednesdays and holidays. For further inquiries please contact (212) 842-5966 or [exhibitions@nyaa.edu](mailto:exhibitions@nyaa.edu)

**Media Contact**

Folake Ologunja, Director of Public Relations

[fologunja@nyaa.edu](mailto:fologunja@nyaa.edu)

(212) 842-5975

###

Hi-resolution jpegs of the exhibition works and the curator and artist bios are available upon request.