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Austin Park

"FUTURE PERFECT"

September 7 – October 2, 2011

NEW YORK, NY - The New York Academy of Art is pleased to present FUTURE PERFECT, an exhibition of work by the recipients of the 2010-2011 Artist-in-Residence and Fellowship Award, Maya Brodsky, John O'Reilly, and Austin Park.

FUTURE PERFECT reveals the extraordinary impact and infinite creative possibilities that emerge when you juxtapose time-honored techniques with a contemporary artist's vision. A Fellowship at the New York Academy of Art provides an unparalleled opportunity for an artist to pursue an independent body of work while immersed in a creatively challenging and supportive environment. The only program of its kind, this exceptional residency – and the resulting exhibition – continues to present a powerful case for deeply informed, rigorously trained conceptual figurative art.

Maya Brodsky's work takes place on a stage where the drama is timeless and where we as the audience are captivated by her empathy and her connection to her subjects. Each painting is like a miniature shadowbox, quietly containing the most essential and deeply felt dramas of life; love, loss, memory and regret.

John O'Reilly's exquisitely rendered sculptures seduce you with their masterful observations of human and animal forms, but don't be fooled... each sculpture is a sucker-punch for a much darker vision. O'Reilly pushes the extremes of his craft and craftily dodges sentiment by getting us to empathize with the abject sublime.

Austin Park's paintings of nocturnal, booze-fueled hopscotch, Wall Street chicken fights and human cartwheels in the desert are magical paintings about a world of opulence and dissatisfaction. Park's high-gloss plastic surfaces are the perfect metaphor for a world where all that glitters is definitely not gold.

The show will open with a reception on Tuesday, September 6 (6pm - 8pm) and will remain on view through Sunday, October 2 (2 -8pm or by appointment; closed Wednesdays and holidays). The exhibition is free and open to the public.

Previous Fellows of the Academy are Ali Banisadr (Leslie Tonkonow Artworks + Projects, reviewed in Art in America, June 2011), Matthew Miller (reviewed in The New York Times, May 2011), Will Kurtz (Mike Weiss Gallery (upcoming), and Helen Verhoeven (reviewed in The New York Times, October 31, 2008). New York Academy of Art Fellows are now represented by galleries in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and abroad and have been featured in art fairs around the globe, including Art Basel, Art Basel Miami and Scope.

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Hi-resolution jpegs of the selected works and artists bios are available upon request.

For further information on the Academy, its graduate school, continuing education courses and public programs, please visit www.nyaa.edu.