

GRIMM FINE ART

PERSBERICHT

Exhibition of new paintings by TOBIAS LEHNER at GRIMM FINE ART

Opening April 12, 17.00-19.00

Amsterdam, March 9, 2008 - Grimm Fine Art is pleased to present **MULTIPLEXOR** the first solo exhibition in the Netherlands by Leipzig-based German painter Tobias Lehner. **MULTIPLEXOR** is a new paintings exhibition that will run from the 12th of April through the 20^{ie}th of May 2008.

Schooled at the prestigious Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst in Leipzig under the supervision of painter Sighard Gille (who is mostly known for his *Song of Life*, a monumental ceiling fresco of vibrant colors in the city's Gewandhaus Orchestra), **Tobias Lehner** (1974, Regensburg) first mastered the craft of traditional figurative painting before turning to abstraction. Since 2003, his work –better described as abstract landscapes—has been the object of various solo shows and group exhibitions all over the world, including Vienna, Houston, Beirut, and South Korea.

Unlike other prominent painters from what has come to be famously known over the past decade as the New Leipzig School, Lehner grew up in West Germany and didn't feel the need to relate to the culture and history of Communism. Although the core of Lehner's practice relies on the appropriation of artistic styles taken from the rich pool of the twentieth century Western tradition, more than any other artistic movement, Abstract Expressionism of the 1950s in America constitutes his major influence. More than telling stories, Lehner aims at painting "what he sees" and thereby evokes feelings and atmospheres rather than narrative plots. Once a chorus member and son of a musicians' family, Lehner creates large-scale canvases that expand in space like symphonies of colors and shapes.

Although his compositions convey at first a sense of chaos, they consequently emerge from the patient and highly ingenious articulation of different formal systems. Geometrical shapes, grids and patterned areas inspired in the realm of computer graphics and advertisements are playfully inserted or set against each other in order to create perspectival depth and a sense of visual acceleration. Yet in so doing Lehner employs more than just lines and shapes; layering and rubbing the surface of the paintings allows him to turn the creative process itself into the content of his paintings, thus capturing time itself. As Emmanuel Post writes, "Lehner's idiosyncratic images evolve within the dialectic of opulent chaos and a clear will to order."

Grimm Fine Art is open from Wednesday to Saturday from 12.00 to 18.00 and by appointment via 020 422 72 27 or info@grimmfineart.com

Restricted information (not for publication)

Tobias Lehner will be present on the day of the opening, which will take place Saturday the 12th of April. Press members are warmly invited between 15.00 en 17.00. For previews and interviews with the artist, please contact Catherine Somzé at catherine@grimmfineart.com or 020 422 72 27.