

Eleanor
Harwood
Gallery

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eleanor Harwood Gallery presents:
Paul Wackers
Atmospheres and Environments



Here and There, 2018
acrylic, spray paint on panel, 60 x 50 inches

Exhibit Dates:

Opening reception: Saturday, September 8th, 6-8pm
September 8th - October 27th 15th, 2018

August 31st, 2017 (San Francisco, CA) — Eleanor Harwood Gallery is thrilled to present *Atmospheres and Environments*, our sixth solo show with Paul Wackers. With every

show Paul's painting techniques become more varied and refined. One of the great pleasures in viewing his work in person is the incredibly adept way he allows area of chaos and experimentation to exist within a work while maintaining control with a variety of masking technique and compositional choices. In particular the painting named *Atmospheres and Environments* spans fourteen feet and shows Wackers at his best. A lexicon of shapes reappear throughout his work.

In the largest work in the show "*Atmospheres and Environments*", Paul knits together the various vocabularies of different bodies of work into a beautiful fourteen foot painting. While he has made works this large before it's his first canvas that is divided into panels.

The theme that runs throughout the works in the show is the pleasure of possession we take in gathering and collecting objects. Wackers' more complex and large scale cabinet/bookcase paintings fit into a long history of artists documenting the collection of objects. There is an interesting body of work emerging in late 18th century Korea of Chaekgeori paintings. These paintings depict the books and objects of an intellectual. While these are not direct influences in Wackers' work, the fascinating urge to collect and then to document the collection is a very innate human drive. Artists have catalogs specimens with for science and for pleasure for centuries. Wackers' works divert from Chaekgeori paintings and botanical and naturalist illustrations with him frequently adding in objects that are abstract, and/or imaginary. For him the paintings catalog sensations and memories as much as objects.

About the Artist

Paul Wackers was born New Haven, Connecticut in 1978. He received his MFA from San Francisco Art Institute, and BFA from Corcoran College of Art and Design in Washington, D.C. Some of Paul's solo exhibitions include Narwhal Projects (Toronto, ON), Alice Gallery (Brussels, Belgium), Eleanor Harwood Gallery (San Francisco, CA) and Morgan Lehman Gallery (New York, NY). Paul has also been in several group and two-person shows, including exhibitions at New Image Art (Los Angeles, CA), Halsey McKay (East Hampton, NY), Frosch and Portmann (New York, NY), and Headlands Center for the Arts (Sausalito, CA). His work is in the MIMA Museum (Brussels, BE) and many prominent private and public collections, including Chevron Corporation, Fidelity Investments and the Ellie Mae Corporate Collection. He also installed a large public mural on the James Hotel in New York City.

He received the Tournesol Painting Prize in 2008 with an awarded residency at the Headlands Center for the Arts (Marin County, CA), the NK Dale Residency (Sunfjord, Norway), Encore (Brussels, BE), and an artist residency at the Byrdcliffe Colony (Woodstock, NY), and the Watershed Center for Ceramic Arts, (Portland, ME). Paul Wackers has been exhibiting with Eleanor Harwood Gallery since 2006. He lives and works in New York City.

His works are included in the MIMA MUSEUM collection in Brussels, BE, and multiple corporate collections including Chevron Corporation, Fidelity Investments, Wellington Management, New York Presbyterian Hospitals, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, The West Collection, The Stanford University Medical Center Collection, Ellie Mae Corporate Collection, Cambridge Associates, LLC, San Francisco, CA, Pivotal, Washington, DC, Jacksonville MOCA (Florida), Capital Group, LA, Related Properties, NYC. His works are also held in numerous private collections around the world.

About Eleanor Harwood Gallery

The Eleanor Harwood Gallery opened September 2006. The programming of the gallery focuses on emerging to mid-career artists exhibiting nationally and internationally. The roster includes artists that are represented in major American and European collections. The gallery actively promotes and encourages career growth for represented artists.

Location

1275 Minnesota Street, Suite 206
San Francisco, CA 94107

Hours

Tuesdays 1:00-5:00pm, Wednesday-Saturday, 11am-5:00pm
And by appointment

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