

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Yigal Ozeri "Territory"

April 21 - June 2, 2012 Opening Reception Saturday, April 21st 6pm – 8pm

Exhibition Summary:

On April 21st 2012, <u>Scott White Contemporary Art</u> in La Jolla, California will introduce the growing San Diego art community to the extraordinary oil paintings of celebrated international artist, Yigal Ozeri. The upcoming show, "Territory," was recently shown in New York and Denmark and will be on display for the first time in California at Scott White Contemporary Art. In addition, Ozeri's upcoming April show at Scott White, will debut two never-before-seen new pieces that are part of his *Aquabella Series*, the artist's most recent body of work.

Ozeri is known for oil paintings that intimately celebrate the raw sensuality and beauty of women in pastoral settings. He depicts a visceral romanticism that has truly captivated the international art community. "Territory" features women in New York City's Central Park who possess a budding sensual aura. The show references English Pre-Raphaelites, who were preoccupied with nature study and a rendering that was realistic and reflective.

Because Ozeri's paintings *are* strikingly realistic, the term *Photorealism* is most often used to classify his work. The artist himself describes his paintings as living within the space that lies between the physical and the abstract. His work is a high-def interpretation of *Romanticism* in the modern world – a vastly real, almost tactile depiction of an infinite fantasy.

"My range of work is to communicate otherworldly emblems that extend beyond the physical human condition," explains Ozeri, "As people examine the painted surfaces, I want them to easily access the texture of the earth; its smell and breath. My subjects are to be read as if they were poems, sonnets, and not mortals. With that thought, I prefer abundant detail, intense colors, and complex compositions in a naturalistic sense."



About the Artist

Yigal Ozeri was born in Israel in 1958. He is represented by the Mike Weiss Gallery and has lived and worked in New York City for the last twenty years. He has shown extensively around the world with recent solo shows in Bologna, Barcelona, Los Angeles, Hong Kong, Amsterdam and Munich. His work is included in prominent permanent collections, including the McNay Art Museum in San Antonio, The Jewish Museum in New York, The New York Public Library, The Israel Museum in Jerusalem, the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, The Haifa Museum of Art, and the Albertina in Vienna, among others.

About The Process

The women are first photographed in the chosen setting using a strong camera lens. Ozeri photographs the women from a distance so that they truly relax and merge with the landscape, resulting in photographs that are intimate and personal. Ozeri then prints the photos to use as a preliminary study for the works, which are painted in oils on paper. Ozeri uses paper rather than canvas, since the surface of the paper absorbs the paint and creates more intense expression.

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