

Scott White Contemporary Art Presents:
“Recent Paintings” by Roni Stretch

Opening Reception: Saturday, April 20, 2013
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Exhibition Dates: April 20 - June 1, 2013

La Jolla, CA – February 18, 2013 Scott White Contemporary Art is pleased to present Los Angeles-based artist, Roni Stretch, and his new series of distinctive, monochromatic landscape, portrait and paper paintings: **“Recent Paintings.”**

Stretch has pioneered the Dichromatic Process, exploring photorealistic under-paintings that emerge ghost-like from a void of color. His meticulous method begins by first creating a photorealistic painting, or “under-painting,” which is then over-painted with two alternating layers of color. Each painting is then polished with three layers of resin, hiding the marks of labor that is involved in creating each piece. Stretch’s work is a lesson in contradictions: photorealism and abstraction, light and dark reality and altered states - smooth and rough textures all ultimately leading to an emotional experience.



Roma Black 1, 2013
72" x 48"
Oil on canvas

Stretch’s “Roma” refers to the artist’s “crumpled paper” series in this exhibition and the type of paper he is attempting to reproduce by hand. Inspired by the prints of American minimalist sculptor and video artist, Richard Serra, Stretch creates an irregular edge on the



Sara, Coldwater, Oatmeal, 2012
54" x 72"
Oil on canvas

black area of the "paper" and overlays the borders of the image with white paint on a square canvas.

"My first response to Roni Stretch's paintings was how extraordinarily exquisite and how original. I know of nothing quite like them in the history of modern, let alone traditional art - an ingenious, convincing integration of color field painting, minimalist structure, and photorealist portraiture," writes Donald Kuspit. The New York-based art critic and author of numerous books, including the controversial "The End of Art" also remarks that, "Stretch's paintings are subtle, eloquent masterpieces, carrying forward the tradition of pure painting while acknowledging the inevitability of human presence and vision."

Born in St. Helens, Merseyside, England in 1964, Stretch attended St. Helens College of Art and Design from 1982 until 1984. He currently lives and works in Los Angeles, California. Stretch's work has been shown extensively in California since the 1990's, including group shows at the **Los Angeles County Museum of Art**, the **Museum of Contemporary Art at the Geffen Contemporary Museum**, **The Westmont Museum of Art** in Santa Barbara and the **Santa Monica Museum of Art**.

The artist's works are held in numerous public collections in the U.S. and Europe and over 200 paintings are in private collections worldwide. Following an inclusion in Kuspit's monumental California New Old Masters at Gallery C, the **Pasadena Museum of California Art** selected Stretch's *Shannon* to complete their peerless permanent collection of California art. In 2005 he was included in the annual Fresh auction at the **Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles** where Stretch's painting realized the highest dollar amount in over 300 up-coming and established artists that year. He has recently been included in

the **Museum of California Design** and the **Cooperstown Museum, New York** permanent collections.

Philanthropically, Stretch has raised thousands of dollars for the Venice Family Clinic, Aids Research Alliance, The Magic Johnson Foundation, The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and The Make A Wish Foundation.

“Recent Paintings” will exhibit in Scott White Contemporary Art from April 20 – June 1, 2013.

About Scott White Contemporary Art

Scott White Contemporary Art has assisted in developing private and public collections for over two decades. Since 1991, the gallery has committed itself to the promotion of emerging and mid-career artists, the majority of which are represented in the permanent collections of museums throughout the world. SWCA features contemporary painting, prints, sculptures, and photography from the United States, Canada and Europe. In addition, Scott White Contemporary Art represents private collections and estates for the acquisition and deaccessioning of artwork by significant modern and contemporary artists.

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