



The Lodge Gallery

131 Chrystie Street, New York, NY 10002

Peter Daverington “Iconophilia”

September 9, 2015 - October 11, 2015

Opening Reception Wednesday, September, 7 to 9pm

The Lodge Gallery is proud to present “*Iconophilia*,” an exhibition of new paintings by Peter Daverington on view September 9th through October 11th, 2015.

The hand of an artist can transport us back in time to discover where we came from or it can take us on journeys forward through dreams to places we never thought possible. In his most recent body of work, Peter Daverington seizes the big picture and presents us with the relics of an evolving world.

Harvested from the iconography of great masters, *Iconophilia* is an adventure through the historical cannons of western art. From the invention of oil paint right up into the graffiti tags and throw ups of old school New York street artists, Daverington plunders and appropriates from a vast archive of visual imagery. In the mix are the fading heroes of the late middle ages, such as Cimabue and Giotto, alongside repeated vignettes from the work of renowned American landscape painter Albert Bierstadt. Among the depictions of high and northern renaissance figuration and Hudson river landscapes, Daverington has woven his own iconography of checkerboards and floating geometries seamlessly into the balance. The result is a collection of riotous melodies that oscillate between artifact and artifice.

As a public meditation on his own future, the future of painting, and the future of western civilization, *Iconophilia* is also an investigation into the cycles of degeneration and renewal. The strange decayed and distressed cacophony of imagery, abstraction, and erasure in these paintings reflects a world in collapse or one that has already collapsed, perhaps several times over, only to be restored and revitalized so that it may collapse again for future generations. Daverington’s poetic reverence for bygone ages and his faith in the future of painting combine here to offer a glimpse of hope amidst the chaos.

As the artist explains himself, “My recent proclivity for subjecting the canvases to brutal forms of abuse and destruction with a power sander and graffiti is perhaps a subconscious response to the disintegration, ruin and class warfare occurring within contemporary society. It’s worth pointing out that while these works literally depict the iconography of art history as destroyed and defaced, each painting has at least one area that has been lovingly restored.”

Peter Daverington is a painter and musician from Melbourne, Australia currently living and working in Beacon, New York. He completed his MFA at the Victorian College of the Arts, University of Melbourne and has held fourteen solo exhibitions since 2004. Peter has been commissioned to paint public murals in Argentina, Australia, China, Egypt, Germany, Guatemala and Turkey. He is the winner of a John Coburn Emerging Artist Award, Rupert Bunny Foundation Visual Arts Fellowship, Australia Council for the Arts New Work Grants and a finalist in the Archibald and Sulman prizes. His work is held in numerous public and private collections. This is his second solo exhibition in New York and first solo exhibition at The Lodge Gallery.

The Lodge Gallery, founded by Keith Schweitzer and Jason Patrick Voegelé, is located at 131 Chrystie Street on Manhattan's Lower East Side. It is the exhibition venue of Republic Worldwide and serves as both an art space and a gathering place for hearty discourse and experimentation.