

BETTY CUNINGHAM GALLERY

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thaw

February 26 – April 2, 2011



Rackstraw Downes
A Thaw, 1972
Oil on canvas
36 3/8 x 80 inches

On Saturday, February 26, Betty Cunningham Gallery will open *Thaw*, a group show featuring a selection of works by the gallery's artists. The show will be on view through April 2 at 541 W. 25th Street, between 10th and 11th Avenues.

The title of the show, *Thaw*, is simply a departure point as we enter spring after a cold and snowy winter. It is, however, taken from a 1972 painting featured in the show titled *A Thaw*, by **Rackstraw Downes**. This painting is among Downes' early representational works signifying his departure from abstraction but comes before his strict adherence to on site painting. Alongside the Downes will be an early work by **Philip Pearlstein**, *Standing Male*, *Sitting Female Nudes*, from 1969. This painting (another sort of thaw) was shocking at the time as it depicts, in Pearlstein's characteristically cool, objective manner, a black male nude and a white female nude.

Also featured in the exhibition, there will be: a major collaged work on paper from *The War Series* by **Judy Glantzman**, completed in 2010, after seeing Picasso's *Guernica*; a felt and resin sculpture, *Carmelite II*, by **Mia Westerlund Roosen** which stands in frozen movement; a perforated, aluminum *Diaphan* by **Clytie Alexander**; an ice-blue watercolor by **Andrew Forge**; *Titleless*, an eight foot tall abstract painting by **Gordon Moore**; and an untitled oil on linen painting by **Jake Berthot**. These works all echo the coldness of winter due to their cool restrained colors and sharp lines.

As "thaw" is a verb as well as a noun, the exhibition moves into spring with works by **William Bailey** and **Charles Garabedian**. In *House by the Sea*, William Bailey paints, in his imaginary interior, a standing woman next to an open window to the sea. In *Forest* Charles Garabedian paints a brilliantly colored semi

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abstract canvas of trees in bloom. And finally, hats off to Spring, with a large painting titled *Floral Park* by **Greg Drasler**.



Charles Garabedian
Forest, 2001
Acrylic on canvas
96 x 78 inches

For further information, artist biographies, and/or images, please contact the gallery.

Listing Information: Betty Cuninghame Gallery is located at 541 West 25 Street, New York, NY 10001
T: 212.242.2772 F: 212.242.5959 E: info@bettycuninghamegallery.com W: www.bettycuninghamegallery.com

Public Transportation: C, E to 23rd Street

Gallery Hours: Tues – Sat 10am – 6pm

Next exhibition: John Lees, New work; on view beginning April 8; opening reception April 8, 6 – 8pm

Additional news

Retrospectives:

[“Rackstraw Downes: Onsite Paintings, 1972 – 2008”](#)

Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME: through March 20, 2011

Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC: May 28 – August 21, 2011

[“Charles Garabedian: A Retrospective”](#)

Santa Barbara Museum of Art: through April 17, 2011

[**Come see us at The Armory Show – Modern, Booth 142**](#)