

Thursday September 29th 2011

TIM DAVIS

“THE NEW ANTIQUITY”



Tim Davis,
Auto Part Labels (The New Antiquity) 2009 ,
C-print, 43.2 x 53.3 cm / 17 x 21 inches
Edition: 1/6, 2 APs
Courtesy: the Artist ,
Galleria Marabini, Milano/Bologna,
Greenberg Van Doren Gallery

TIM DAVIS “THE NEW ANTIQUITY”

Opening Thursday September 29th 2011 | Exhibition from September 30th to November 11th 2011

[Press Release](#)

Marabini Gallery is delighted to announce the solo exhibition of the artist Tim Davis.

The opening will take place on Thursday, September 29th from 6pm to 8pm. The artist will be present.

Tim Davis is an American visual artist and poet. His photographic work delves into formal aspects of photography (light and abstraction) as well as socially-engaged documentary. He is the author and subject of several books.

The main group of works exhibited at Marabini gallery consists in the series of color C-prints titled “The New Antiquity” (2009). Davis realized these works during his stay in Italy for the Rome Prize from the American Academy in Rome in 2007-08. Rome is a city steeped in history and art where what looks to be a pile of rocks might well turn out to be a temple site or ancient ruin. The artist saw similar potential in other kinds of apparently ordinary (and often modern) objects and they became the preeminent subjects of his shoots. Between 2008 and 2009 he expanded this body of works including seventeen images from China and United States.

Discerning unexpected meanings or formal elegance in ordinary things is an established photographic way of looking: thinking of William Eggleston and Stephen Shore among many others. But Tim Davis adds to his works a peculiar sense of humor and a deep sensibility to daily life. His curious eye can tell to the audience a lot of things about the counties that he is exploring even if he uses very few and apparently insignificant details. Visiting this show is like making a trip to Italy, China or United States not as a tourist but as a person that lives in these countries and perfectly knows all the aspects, the monuments and the suburbs, the lives of ordinary people and all the small objects that we ignore even if they pass everyday by our eyes.

Past and present are mixed together in an interesting combination just to show many possible contradictions as in *Fresco* (2009) where a painting of a saint has been effaced by graffiti or in *Aqueduct* (2009) where a group of golfers are playing closed to a Roman aqueduct, a sly take-off on Thomas Struth's juxtaposition of modern audiences with classic masterpieces. Tim sends up Andreas Gursky with a colorful shelved section of running shoes and captures two bosomy prostitutes waiting in the outskirts of the city (*Outside the Ring Road*, 2009) quoting at Justine Kurland and Katy Grannan. Davis is also a master of “nature morte”. His still life of grapes and chicken, next to a blue whisk broom in *Gypsy Meal* (2009) is a riot of shimmering color and poetic arrangement.

To complete the exhibition will be showed the video *The Classics* (2011), a work that features shots of appearances of Classical Antiquity in the small town where the artist lives.

Tim Davis was born in Blantyre, Malawi in 1969, lives and works in New York City.

Davis teaches photography at Bard College and Yale University. He is the author of five books of photography: "The New Antiquity," "My Life in Politics," "Illuminations," "Permanent Collection" and "Lots". He also is the author of two books of poems: "American Whatever" and "Dailies".

Davis has exhibited his work in solo shows in New York, London, Los Angeles, Chicago, Brussels, Geneva, Atlanta and Miami as well as in numerous group shows. He was a Discovery Award finalist at the 2004 Arles Photography Festival and was the 2007-08 Joseph H. Hazen Rome Prize Fellow in residence at the American Academy in Rome. His photographs are included in the collections of the Guggenheim, Metropolitan, Hirshhorn, Walker High and other museums.

For further enquires please contact the Gallery on +39 051 6447482, +39 02 62086802

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Tim Davis,
Fluorescent Green Cleat, 2009
C-print, 43.2 x 53.3 cm
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