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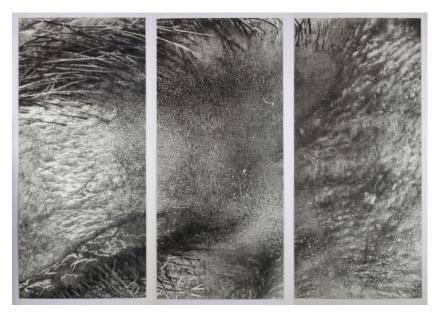
GARIS & HAHN

EST. NOW

263 BOWERY NEW YORK, NY 10002

Garis & Hahn Presents: Borderline: Depictions of Skin

Works by Gwen Hardie, Cynthia Lin, and Diana Schmertz



Cynthia Lin: Crop1aAsideEyeEA, graphite and charcoal on paper, 82 x 133 inches, 2009.

Opening Reception: March 28, 2013 | 6PM - 8PM Exhibition Dates: March 28 - April 27, 2013 Artist Panel Discussion: April 10, 2013 | 7PM

Garis & Hahn | 263 Bowery | New York, NY 10002

<u>Garis & Hahn</u> is pleased to announce *Borderline: Depictions of Skin*, an exhibition of mixed media work by <u>Gwen Hardie</u>, <u>Cynthia Lin</u>, and <u>Diana Schmertz</u>. This will be the second exhibition for the recently opened gallery space on the Bowery.

Borderline focuses on three artists' unique perspectives of skin, and the role it plays as a sometimes sensory, sometimes literal "border" between the inner and outer realms. The works on exhibit present a duality of beauty and unease through an intimate examination of skin in different manifestations--a resilient organ, a beautiful translucent membrane, or a means for physical and psychological connection. In these highly detailed images, focus is often obscured at first glance, allowing an initial veneration of pure aesthetics prior to the revelation of the subject and the viewer's uncomfortable proximity to it. Borderline aims to reveal varied perceptions of skin and question the relationship to the subject.



Gwen Hardie: Body 09.12.09, oil on tondo, 30 inch diameter, 2009.

Diana Schmertz seeks to examine the categorical manner by which human beings are conditioned to understand the world. These "systems" of thought are reduced to the sensory experiences they must produce to be "felt" and ultimately understood by people; in this way the skin becomes the gateway to human thought and behavior. Similarly, **Gwen Hardie's** paintings are metaphorical examinations of the body image wherein skin serves as primary witness to an inner life, while also acting as a diaphanous membrane between the inner and outer world. The sheer membrane of oil paint which creates an illusion of skin, is characterized by subtle shifts of color that resemble light affects in landscape. The transformation of the flesh into a landscape is more literally understood in **Cynthia Lin's** large scale drawings. Scabs and scars map human survival and resilience, evidence of the trials and forces endured.

Borderline examines skin in a greater metaphysical context, an allegory of the human condition. In considering the unique perspectives of the three artists on display, the viewer is forced to confront their own relationship between their body and the world, and the greater implications found therein.



Diana Schmertz: The Cause Of Itself, oil on canvas, 36x30 inches, 2010.

About Garis & Hahn

Garis & Hahn is a gallery-cum-kunsthalle that mounts exhibitions focused on conceptual narratives and relevant conversations in contemporary art. By displaying an array of carefully curated artists, the gallery endeavors to provide accessibility, education, awareness, and a market to the art while engaging both the arts community and a broader general audience.

<u>Gallery Hours</u> Tuesday – Saturday 11-7

Location 263 Bowery New York, NY 10002

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