

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

December 11, 2014

PRESS RELEASE

EDEN ROCK GALLERY
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HOURS: Mon-Sun 10:00am-5:00pm



HARMONY KORINE

Sunday, December 28, 2014-Saturday, January 31, 2015
Opening reception: Sunday, December 28th, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

I've long been interested in loops, mistakes, trance-y repetition. It's like writing a novel with pages missing in all the right places.

-Harmony Korine

Gagosian is pleased to present recent paintings by Harmony Korine at Eden Rock Gallery's new location on top of the iconic hotel Eden Rock - St Barths.

Korine's cult films of the past twenty years—from the surreal *Gummo* (1997) to *Spring Breakers* (2012), a contemporary film noir in which four college freshmen are drawn into a murderous labyrinth of events—merge reality with fiction and hand-held camerawork with precise montage. This heady mix of the unplanned, the seductive, and the outlandish crystallizes in his lesser known, highly tactile paintings. Eschewing brush and professional paint in favor of Squeegees, leftover household paint, and masking tape, he creates loosely sequential images that echo the sonic and visual leitmotifs of his films. The accumulative hypnotic effect of the paintings is offset by lifelike randomness and impulsive energy.

Fidget Malt Crew and *Slotty* (all works 2014) are inhabited by shadowy, clawed creatures reminiscent of Goya's ghastly *Caprices*, obscured by layers of housepaint, sprayed with letters, and repainted over the course of several years. The rows of circles and squares that cover every inch of *Fflobby Check* and *Slausenraver Check* yield sudden variations that vacillate between considered and spontaneous mark-making, while rainbow-hued, striated paintings comprising hundreds of horizontal lines hint at distant perspectives. Korine sticks pieces of bubble wrap, plastic, and paper to the canvas as he works, imbuing the optical depths with physical relief. These fossilized scraps embody dual narratives: as literal records of process, their skeletal silhouettes also suggest drifting specters, echoing the animated wraiths of more overtly figurative works such as *Tinchy Sinchy* and *Frost Ball Junior High*. Deliberate and erratic, repetitious and random, Korine's paintings are born of fierce life forces, conflictual yet interdependent.

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N E W Y O R K @ G A G O S I A N . C O M W W W . G A G O S I A N . C O M

G A G O S I A N G A L L E R Y

Harmony Korine was born in Bolinas, California in 1973. His films include *Kids* (1995, written by Korine, directed by Larry Clark); *Gummo* (1997, written and directed by Korine); *Julien Donkey-Boy* (1999, written and directed by Korine); *Ken Park* (2002, written by Korine, directed by Larry Clark and Ed Lachman); *Mister Lonely* (2007, written by Korine, co-directed with Avi Korine); *Trash Humpers* (2009, written and directed by Korine); and *Spring Breakers* (2012, written and directed by Korine). Solo and two-person exhibitions of his films, photographs, and paintings include Patrick Painter, Santa Monica, CA (1997, 2000); Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst, Ghent, Belgium (2000); "Harmony Korine-pigxote," Vanderbilt University Fine Arts Gallery, Nashville, TN (2009); "Rita Ackermann and Harmony Korine: Shadow Fux," Swiss Institute, New York (2010-11); and Gagosian New York (2014). His work was included in "Présumés Innocents, l'art contemporain et l'enfance," CAPC Musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux (2001); "Beautiful Losers," Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center (2004); "SONIC YOUTH etc. : SENSATIONAL FIX," Kunsthalle Düsseldorf (2009); and "Altars of Madness," Casino Luxembourg Forum d'art contemporain (2013). Korine's novel, *A Crack Up at the Race Riots*, was published by Mainstreet/Doubleday in 1998. *Pass the Bitch Chicken: Christopher Wool & Harmony Korine*, a book of collaborative images, was released by Holzwarth Publications in 2002. His work was included in the 50th Venice Biennale (2003).

A major exhibition of Korine's recent paintings will be on view at Gagosian Beverly Hills from January 10-February 14, 2015.

For further information please contact Andrea Pemberton at apemberton@gagosian.com or at +1.646.872.1446. All images are subject to copyright. Gallery approval must be granted prior to reproduction.

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Please also join Eden Rock-St. Barths on Twitter (@ER_StBarths), Facebook (@EdenRockStBarths), Instagram (@ER_StBarths).

Image: *Bacc Rox Line*, 2014, house paint, acrylic, oil, and collage on canvas, 62 x 66 inches (157.5 x 167.6 cm)

Gagosian Gallery was established in 1980 by Larry Gagosian.



EDEN ROCK
ST BARTHS

G A G O S I A N G A L L E R Y



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