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Ena Swansea

Fugitive Scenes

October 18–November 23, 2013

Gallery hours:
Tue–Sat: 10 am–6 pm



view from the Roth Bar, 2013, oil on graphite on linen, 72 x 90 inches

Locks Gallery is pleased to present *Fugitive Scenes*, a new series of paintings by New York artist Ena Swansea. The exhibition will be on view October 18th through November 23rd, 2013. There will be a reception for the artist on November 1st, from 5:30–7:30 pm. A fully illustrated catalog, with an essay by critic and author Gregory Volk, will accompany the exhibit.

The paintings in *Fugitive Scenes* are diverse, ranging in scale from small panels to a monumental 8-foot square canvas. Swansea moves fluidly between figurative subjects and landscape scenes while experimenting with unusual figure-ground relationships. In this painterly space, figures emerge from the dark graphite ground as if floating and a dynamic interchange between negative and positive space transpires in the landscapes. The charged atmosphere of the work stems from the artist's study of silhouetted forms and the effects of light on the surfaces of water, snow, and skin.

From Madison Square Park, to Central Park and the Hudson River Piers, Swansea creates ephemeral and cinematic perspectives of seemingly mundane moments in her surroundings. As Volk writes, "What Swansea's paintings definitely communicate are heightened psychological (and emotional) states involving an admixture of agitation and repose, amazement and foreboding, beatific bliss and outright fear. Another important

[continued on reverse]

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characteristic of Swansea's oil paintings is how they absorb non-painterly forms of representation, like movies, photographs, videos, and the cinema, even x-ray images.”

Swansea has had over a dozen solo exhibits since 2000; her most recent one-person exhibit was in Seoul, South Korea. Deichtorhallen Hamburg organized a two-person survey of Swansea and Robert Lucander in 2011. In 2008, her first museum survey was held at the Musee d'Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean, Luxembourg. Swansea's first solo show at Locks Gallery was in 2002. Additionally, she has been included in the group exhibitions *The Tipping Point*, *Water is Best*, and *New Light*.

Locks Gallery is located at 600 Washington Square South in Philadelphia, PA. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10am to 6pm. For additional information, please contact Locks Gallery at 215-629-1000, fax 215-629-3868, or email info@locksgallery.com.

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