

HP GARCIA GALLERY

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DEBRA DREXLER

Shadow Play

Open to the public from 29 September through 24 October 2009

Gallery hours are 1 to 6 PM, Tuesday through Saturday

Contact: 212.354.7333 or info@hpgarciagallery.com



HP Garcia Gallery is pleased to announce *Shadow Play* an exhibition of paintings by Debra Drexler, from 29 September through 24 October 2009. A reception for the artist will take place on Wednesday, 7 October from 6 to 8 PM.

In her new series of medium to large, oil on canvas paintings, Debra Drexler expands beyond the theme which dominated her earlier series, the acclaimed *Gauguin's Zombie*. Paradoxically, letting go of the intellect that served as the foundation of the earlier works enabled the artist to produce these refined works hovering between reality and dream.

"I believe especially now that it is necessary to embrace the potential for art as a vehicle for healing. This does not mean ignoring the atrocities of the world, but seeing the potential for light to break through and transform the darkness. It is only through understanding of our shadow, that we come see how it models and reflects the light within us," says the artist in her statement.

Paradoxically, the viewer becomes a conscious participant in these compelling works precisely due to the looming presence of the Shadow as universal archetype. Drexler has pictured awakening as a duality: a pool interchanged with its own reflection, out of which a bound figure evolves and dissolves at the very edge of form and imagination. This juxtaposition reveals the role that free will plays in any transformational process – whether prompted by a dream or work of art.

Through these alchemical stages, lyricism of color, layering and shape are born out of the painter's quest to capture the stages of spiritual transformation through the visual language. Along the way, her insights plunge us deeper and deeper into the fathomless Self. In holding the tension of the opposites reflected in the grey ground of the in-between, the very newness of this painting originates in the crucial challenge it so boldly embraces: the visual process of spiritual embodiment.

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