

I N M A N G A L L E R Y

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 19, 2009

Inman Gallery presents two solo exhibitions:

Brent Steen

Still Lives: Seeing Violet

and in the north gallery

Jim Richard

Let's Stay Inside

June 19 – August 1, 2009

Opening Reception
Friday June 19
6 – 8pm



Brent Steen, *Centerpiece (the lowering)*, 2009;
pencil on gessoed panel, 36 x 42 inches

Inman Gallery is pleased to present two new shows — ***Still Lives: Seeing Violet*** by Brent Steen in the Main Gallery and ***Let's Stay Inside*** by Jim Richard in the North Gallery. These solo exhibitions take separate looks at the domestic spaces we inhabit and the potential for the surprising, unfamiliar, and mysterious therein.

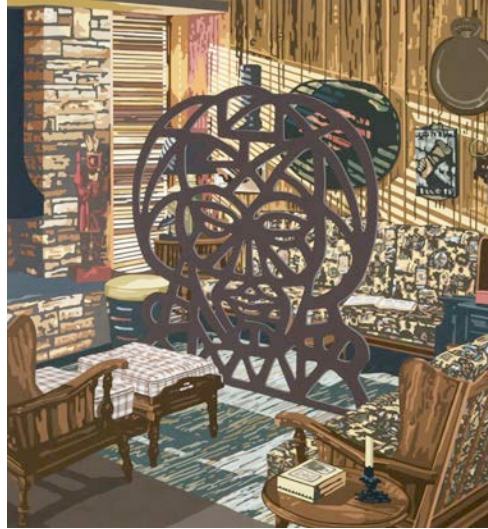
A new series of graphite on panel works by Houston native **Brent Steen** depict intimate scenes the artist composed and photographed in and around his Brooklyn, New York home and studio. Evincing commonplace objects in uncommon situations, the black and white images suggest narratives seemingly colored by an atmosphere of violence. Wind chimes appear muffled by soft drapery, the shell of a pear clings to another, and a picture of a waterfall is divided by a book's binding. Throughout, precarious moments are rendered in a straightforward manner, producing drawings both visually and psychologically taut.

Brent Steen was born in 1974 in Dallas, TX. He studied at the University of North Texas, Denton (B.F.A., 1998) and the University of Houston (M.F.A., 2001). From 2001 – 2003 he was a Core Artist-in-Residence at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and in 2003 was the recipient of an Artadia Individual Artist Grant. His work was recently included in the group exhibitions *The Exquisite Line* at the Sherman Gallery, Boston University, Boston, MA (2008); *Please Love Me*, Walker's Point Center for the Arts, Milwaukee, WI (2006); and *Belief and Doubt*, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO (2006). He currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.

In the North Gallery New Orleans-based **Jim Richard** debuts a painting, *Blinds*, 2009, and a gouache, *Big Red*, 2009, along with collages from his ongoing exploration of the decorative. Richard cuts photographs of paintings, sculpture, and emblem-like objects from shelter magazines and inserts them into similarly appropriated pictures of

unpeopled interiors. The resulting collages collide patterns and styles, provoke questions of value, and animate otherwise inert things. *Blinds* and *Big Red* take these mash-ups one step further by synthesizing the compositions in seductive paint, offering celebratory and sardonic views of personal collecting and domestic habitation.

Jim Richard was born in Port Arthur, TX. He studied at Lamar State College of Technology (B.S., 1965) and The University of Colorado (M.F.A., 1968). His work has been exhibited widely over the past 30 years, including solo and group exhibitions in Mobile, AL; Washington D.C.; New Orleans, LA; Houston, TX; and New York, NY. Most recently, his work was included in the group exhibition *Domestic Life* at the Sun Valley Center for the Arts, Ketchum, ID (2009); and *Champagne and Baloney* at Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York (2009). Richard lives and works in New Orleans where he has been a professor at the University of New Orleans since 1975.



Jim Richard, *Blinds*, 2009; oil on canvas, 60 x 55 inches

Special gallery event:

Saturday June 20th, 12 NOON

artists' walk-through and lunch

Please join us Saturday June 20 at noon for an exhibition tour with artists Brent Steen and Jim Richard. A light lunch will be served afterwards.

For more images or information, please contact the gallery at info@inmangallery.com.