

Waddington Galleries

PRESS RELEASE

IAN DAVENPORT LARGE SCALE PAINTINGS

11 Cork Street, London W1X 2LT

Exhibition dates: 27th January - 26th February 2000

Exhibition hours: Monday – Friday 10am – 5.30pm, Saturday 10am – 1pm

Ian Davenport's new multi-pannelled and large scale paintings, exhibited here for the first time, reveal a further development in his work, both in scale and the complexity of colour.

Process is the foundation on which Davenport's paintings rest, but Davenport is clear to distinguish that this is only a part in his work: 'Process is a tool, it's not the point of the paintings. The point is the richness of the final outcome, which is intertwined with a set of procedures'. The new paintings show an increasing range in colour, surface, and proportion. Using pure and subtly modified hues, permutations of colour combinations encompass various intensities, transparencies and inversions. The smooth and sensual surfaces, create effects of containment and distance. The viewer's interaction with the paintings is both dynamic and reflexive. Their arrangement in groups forms sequences of visual positives and negatives, and temporal and spatial rhythms become evident as one may be literally mirrored in the sometimes reflective surface of the paintings. It is these tensions which keep us examining and looking at the paintings.

Ian Davenport was born in Kent in 1966. He studied at Goldsmiths' College of Art in London, graduating in 1988 with a B.A. in Fine Art. His first solo exhibition was held at Waddington Galleries in 1990, and in the same year his work was also seen in *The British Art Show*, which toured to Leeds City Art Gallery and the Hayward Gallery, London. He was nominated for the Turner Prize in 1991. In 1997, he was commissioned to create a site-specific installation for Banque Paribas in London. Davenport's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, and is included in the public collections of the Tate Gallery, London, the Weltkunst Collection, Zurich, and the Dallas Museum of Art, Texas. In 1999, Davenport had a major solo exhibition at Dundee Contemporary Arts in Scotland and was a prizewinner at the 21st John Moores Liverpool Exhibition. The artist lives and works in London and is represented worldwide by Waddington Galleries.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue with a text and interview by Michael Bracewell. Images of works in the exhibition can be viewed on the website.

For further information or photos please contact Caren Ratzel

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