CHRISTIAN SCHUMANN: NEW PAINTINGS
ELISA SIGHICELLI: FROST

Opening reception: Saturday, May 12, 2001  6 – 8pm

Gagosian Gallery Los Angeles is pleased to announce two concurrent exhibitions: new paintings by Christian Schumann and new photographic works by Elisa Sighicelli.

Christian Schumann’s nine new paintings display the quirkiness and high energy for which he is famous. His artful brand of graffiti bubbles with the optimism and the non-sensical imagination of a child, yet is also replete with the biting humor and satire of the mature mind.

For these new works Schumann gradually abandons his collage-like compositions to create singular narratives with a distinct focal point. The imagery however, taken from such pop culture phenomena as comic books and science fiction, is still very Schumann-like in that the viewer is always able to recognize and identify with the symbols and images.

Schumann has had solo exhibitions at various international galleries including Jay Jopling’s White Cube in London, Daniel Weinberg Gallery in San Francisco and Postmasters in New York. He was also included in the 1995 Whitney Biennial.

Like Schumann, Elisa Sighicelli draws upon familiar objects to create an immediate relationship with the viewer. However, in Sighicelli’s color photographs the voyeur is the subject. Her images are devoid of human belongings or apparent narratives; they thereby draw the spectator into a sense of disarmament.

In these works, all photographed in Iceland, she plays with the association between interior and exterior. Interiors are transformed into landscapes and what is perceived as foreground or background has an eerie displacement.

While photography, by its nature, captures a moment in time, automatically rendering it the past, Sighicelli’s work keeps this moment present and alive by using thin light boxes to illuminate selected areas of the images.

Sighicelli has had solo exhibitions at such places as Giò Marconi in Milan, the Centro Gallego de Arte Contemporánea, Galicia, in Spain and at the Laure Genillard Gallery in London.

For more information please contact the gallery.