

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

***AD* Previews Harmony Korine's New Solo Show**

Michael Slenske



Scubby Line, 2014, Harmony Korine.

One of the busiest months on the Los Angeles art calendar has long been February for the “Oscar shows” (timed to coincide with the actual awards show), but over the past few years January has been elbowing in with what might be called the “Globes shows.” The stars certainly aligned—everyone from Leonardo DiCaprio to Richard Prince—on Saturday for the opening of writer, filmmaker, and painter Harmony Korine’s vibrant new solo show, “Raiders.” The exhibition, at Gagosian Beverly Hills, comprises pieces from six series that Korine had been working on for the last six years in his barnlike studio in Nashville, Tennessee.

Korine’s “Line” paintings were made with brilliant stripes of house paint, acrylic spray, oil, and collaged packing materials. “It’s like the color of his movies,” one patron remarked. These works stand in opposition to a haunting black-and-white figure, *Sinky Monk*, which Korine rendered on the floor of his studio with mops and black house paint on a raw canvas.

“There’s not a fixed point—you can never really get used to anything on them. For me, most of the paintings are about a vision, or a feeling,” says Korine, noting that the grids are taken from old novelty visual-trick books like *Magic Eye*. “In the same way that the movies are sensory, the paintings have that type of relationship where they’re slightly alive and falling apart. There’s something tactile about them, hallucinatory, druggy, boozy.”

That trip bleeds over into the adjoining room, where Korine has installed five of his “Chex” paintings, which are meant to feel like the crayon or marker drawings he did on his own shoes as a kid; one of them will be transferred onto Vans slip-ons come March. Meanwhile, upstairs he’s installed the final piece in his series of dyed “Starburst” paintings, some stain works “done by accident” on gray felt blankets, and a series of smaller works featuring apparitional characters that Korine has been accumulating for years. “In some ways,” he says, “this is my favorite stuff, these small wild, strange characters.”

Photography © Harmony Korine, courtesy of Gagosian Gallery, and by Josh White /JWPictures.com