



SOUTH LA BREA GALLERY
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PRESS RELEASE

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EXHIBITIONS: **Manuela Friedmann: *Paintings***
Valerie Green: *Fill Empty Repeat*

DATES: November 10 – December 9, 2006
Opening Reception: Friday, November 10, 7pm – 10pm

LOCATION: **South La Brea Gallery**
208 S. La Brea Avenue
Inglewood, CA 90301
310.486.0266

GALLERY HOURS: Saturday 11am - 5pm, and by appointment

South La Brea Gallery is pleased to present two solo shows: Manuela Friedmann: *Paintings*, and Valerie Green: *Fill Empty Repeat*.

Manuela Friedmann employs a grid structure to develop varying imagery exploring the themes of memory, transitional moments, boundaries, borders, edges, identity and difference. Much of her work is autobiographical in that the grid is used as a foil for an improvisational and intuited response to a place or an experience.

Included are selected paintings from Friedmann's series *Recollections* and *Mountain Lake*. The paintings can be described as having distinct layers of carefully applied fields of color that overlap to create compositions that have an asymmetrical relationship to the underlying grid. The paint is carefully worked and reworked until delicate and subtle surfaces are created. Much care is given to the transparency and opacity of each layer. In all of the paintings there is a subtlety in the articulation of the surface and a delicate quality to the edges of the color fields. These edges are the result of the paint application or are carefully inscribed with a pencil, leaving the residual ridges as physical evidence of the process of making the work. In some of the paintings, the colors are so closely related that they appear to reunite as monochromes when viewed from further away.

Valerie Green's deliciously tempting candy colored sculptural photographic installation *Fill Empty Repeat* is a grouping of hyper real color photographic cut-outs that depict the evidence of consumption gone overboard. Meticulously constructed, each piece in *Fill Empty Repeat* induces the viewer to reflect upon the unflagging and self-perpetuating nature of contemporary consumer culture. As we accumulate, we are spurred on: forever more.

The work examines our constant absorption of vast amounts of visual data that subversively and blatantly urges us to buy more, and the experience of accruing in an attempt to fulfill emotional needs. Green highlights conspicuous consumption through an endless array of remnants and supplemental purchases required to maintain the condition. These are the artifacts of modernity... embedded with pre-destined obsolescence.

South La Brea Gallery is located in the city of Inglewood - just east of the Los Angeles International Airport at the corner of La Brea and Manchester. Gallery hours are Saturday 11am - 5pm and by appointment. For further information, please contact South La Brea Gallery at (310) 486-0266 or by e-mail at southlabrea@yahoo.com.