Wynick/Tuck Gallery

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Monica Tap

One-second Hudson
New Paintings
Opening: Saturday, November 24, 2007
Artist present 2-5pm.
The exhibition continues through December 22, and January 8 to 12, 2008

One-second Hudson No. 9, 2007, oil on canvas, 24" x 32"

We are pleased to present an exhibition of new paintings by Monica Tap

For the last two years, Tap has based her paintings upon stills extracted from low-resolution video captured using the video feature on her digital still camera. For this new body of work, Tap determined to select only a single second, painting every one of the 15 frames contained therein, so that each of the fifteen canvases 'records' one fifteenth of one second (The mpeg format captures 15 frames per second.) The paintings are modest in scale, easel-size, and intentionally conventional in material: oil on linen, on a traditional horizontal landscape-format. The footage was captured from the vantage of a train, along the Hudson River, somewhere between Grand Central Station, New York and Dia Art Foundation, Beacon, NY. Also in the exhibition will be several larger scale paintings related to this work.

Tap has been exhibiting widely in recent years at private and public galleries here and abroad including solo exhibitions at Margaret Thatcher Projects, New York , N.Y. and *Séance* at The Kitchener/Waterloo Art Gallery, Ontario. In the essay commissioned for the KWAG catalogue Matthew Brower wrote:

"…The paintings offer a highly mediated encounter with the landscape. The paintings emphasize the process of mediation through their engagement with video source images. The videos document a series of trips following the path of (Homer) Watson's life. (---) In making the works, Tap inhabits the space between the projector and canvas – the space of the medium. Working in the 'dark' gives Tap's brushstrokes an assurance that is free from a facile or self-indulgent virtuosity. The use of the projector distances her from an overly romantic investment in the work…"

In the catalogue essay for the exhibition *The Space Between*: *Looking at Paintings by Monica Tap,* 2004 at the Southern Alberta Art Gallery in Lethbridge and the Tom Thompson Art Gallery in Owen Sound, Ontario, Thomson Director/Curator Stuart Reid wrote: "Time itself was being flattened out in this exercise of Tap's. The artist laboured for hours on end over the articulation and simulation of tiny marks that had originally taken fractions of a second to make."

"Can painting deal with time based media?", Gary Michael Dault asks in his review of Tap's last exhibition at WTG in May, 2005. " ...And Tap's attempts to explore it are admirable. In the best of these time-based, film-based landscapes, you get a rush and tumble of things, the feeling of time before and time after."

Tap has several solo exhibitions coming up in 2008 including the MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie , Ontario in March and the Art Gallery of Windsor, Ontario in August.