

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JONATHAN HOROWITZ

“GROUP SELF-PORTRAITS IN ‘MIRROR #1 (SIX PANELS)’”

MARCH 2 – MARCH 23, 2012

OPENING RECEPTION: MARCH 9, 2013 6-9PM

Gavin Brown’s enterprise is pleased to present “Group Self-portraits in ‘Mirror #1 (Six Panels),” a series of seven new paintings by Jonathan Horowitz. This is the third in a series of works in which Horowitz has appropriated Roy Lichtenstein’s 1969-72 Mirror paintings.

Based on Lichtenstein’s 1970 painting “Mirror #1 (Six Panels),” each “Group Self-portrait” is painted by six different artists, each responsible for one of the six constituent panels. Working from an 11” x 14” print-out of an image downloaded from the Internet, the panels are painted by eye using nothing other than paint and brushes – no projectors, stencils, pencil lines, tape, or rulers are involved. The painters were instructed to try their best to accurately reproduce the image, without consciously imparting any personal style. Inevitably, each artist’s hand is strongly evinced nonetheless.

Typically, the artist assistant is instructed to mimic the technique and style of a given “master” artist. Any personal expression, gesture, or style is disallowed. Here, in Horowitz’s project, the process instead underscores the particularities of each assistant’s practice. Every mark is in effect a mistake, unique in its wrongness, the individual traces of the painting’s divergence from the original image. Instead of overseeing the 41 other painters, Horowitz joins them in the same solitary activity. Each panel that results is in essence a self-portrait of the maker, reflecting the unique physiologies that make us all different. By underscoring these differences, Horowitz demonstrates that the qualities that might differentiate us from one another ultimately equalize us as well.

