

Jonathan Viner

(presents)

Graham Collins: Concert in Central Park

Jonathan Viner Gallery is pleased to present *Concert in Central Park*, Graham Collins' first solo exhibition in London. In the first gallery, Collins shows new works from an ongoing series that combines reclaimed wood frames, glass, window tint and canvases. The aluminium vitrines in the second gallery are shown alongside a new series of re-stretched found canvases each of which approach the central questions of his practice from distinct and specific angles.

Paying attention to the historical problems of abstract art, particularly colour field painting, Collins' monochrome works play on formal colour theory by adding commercial car window tint to the glass of their frame. The tint changes the perceived colour of the painting, extending the work to incorporate the glass surface, thereby pushing it to tread a line between sculpture and painting. This notion is re-iterated with the aluminium vitrines in the second gallery, where the painting within becomes a part of the sculpture's structure. The works do not labour this point but it is the evasion of either tradition which give them their lightness.

A further theme that carries through Collins' practice is the denial of a visible authorial hand. By focussing his practice on the conditions of production, the structures employed for production and the way the work is viewed, Collins is able to highlight the physicality of his works beyond his own hand. In the same way that the show's title, *Concert in Central Park* refers to a specific event and place while intentionally remaining ambiguous, so the skills used to create the Collins' works are generic yet carried out within the delineations of his practice. The visible results of the methods Collins employs allow the artwork a gentle resistance of definition and questioning of context, acknowledging many of the issues surrounding contemporary art production and re-emphasising the individual creative act.

first gallery, clockwise from left of entrance:

Nostrand I, 2014

spray enamel on canvas, reclaimed wood, glass, window tint
74 x 61 inches

Myrtle I, 2014

spray enamel on canvas, reclaimed wood, glass, window tint
87.5 x 59.5 inches

Park I, 2014

spray enamel on canvas, reclaimed wood, glass, window tint
87.5 x 59.5 inches

Marcy I, 2014

spray enamel on canvas, reclaimed wood, glass, window tint
87.5 x 59.5 inches

second gallery, clockwise from left of entrance:

Trees, 2014

oil on canvas / 46.5 x 24 inches

Upside Down Sky, 2014

oil on canvas / 47.5 x 14.5 inches

Destroyer, 2014

oil on canvas / 36 x 23.5 inches

Green Triangle, 2014

oil on canvas / 37 x 41.75 inches

Locust, 2014

aluminum, glass, rubber / 8 ft x 3 ft x 12 inches

Black Walnut, 2014

aluminum, glass, rubber / 8 ft x 3 ft x 12 inches

Vanquisher, 2014

aluminum, glass, rubber, acrylic on linen, reclaimed wood
8 ft x 3 ft x 12 inches

Oriole, 2014

aluminum, glass, rubber, acrylic on linen, reclaimed wood
8 ft x 3 ft x 12 inches

Graham Collins' recent solo exhibitions include *Civic*, The Journal Gallery, Brooklyn; *V8*, Halsey McKay, East Hampton and *Shade Tree*, Soloway, New York. He lives and works in Brooklyn.