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For Release: Immediately

GEORGE BILLIS GALLERY

DAVID LEONARD

MAY 25 - JULY 3, 2010

Artist **David Leonard** will exhibit a series of paintings at the **George Billis Gallery**, on the 2nd Floor of **555 West 25th Street**, between 10th and 11th Avenue, from **May 25 - July 3, 2010**. An artist's reception will be held at the gallery on **Thursday, May 27 from 6-8 PM**. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 AM - 6 PM.



Up Broadway, oil on canvas, 33 x 28"

In a city where we are constantly surrounded by movements, sights, and sounds, we often tend to focus not on our surroundings, but on ourselves. There is an endless saturation of visual information on every street corner and with every building and it is inevitable, at some point, we become immune to the commotion and in turn, the beauty.

By focusing on his surroundings, artist David Leonard opens our eyes to New York City. His views are not those of a single individual, but from a collective view as one of millions. Leonard takes the confusion and abstraction of the city and creates a recognizable and comprehensible scene, one in which we can clearly see for miles down a crowded avenue without the blurred elements of our daily lives.

"One of the parallels I find interesting is, like life itself, there's always so much going on all around us here. It's hard to comprehend everything but, as I hope you can see, it's easier to in a painting," states the artist.

By expanding the field of view, Leonard includes details of the city that are often overlooked, from the manhole covers up to the spire of the Empire State Building. I want the viewer to focus on the whole picture as opposed to the individuals in it. It's not about a particular person's experience, but a collective memory of the city."

David Leonard received his BFA from Rochester Institute of Technology in 1985 and has also studied at the Banff Centre for the Fine Arts in Banff, Alberta, Canada. He currently resides in Austin, TX.

The George Billis Gallery marks its fourteenth year in the Chelsea art district and recently opened a second gallery in the burgeoning art district of Culver City in Los Angeles. For more information, please contact the gallery via e-mail at gallery@georgebillis.com or visit our website at www.georgebillis.com.

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