

**PRATT INSTITUTE GRADUATE FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS:
VISITING ARTIST LECTURE SERIES, FALL 2007**

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Advisor: Dominique Nahas, independent curator, critic, and Pratt professor

This FALL 2007 semester, the lectures will be held in the *Engineering Building, Room 371* on **Pratt's Brooklyn Campus**, located on 200 Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11205 on articulated **Tuesdays** beginning September 18th, 2007 from **12: 45- 1: 45**. The lectures will be followed by individual critiques with MFA students.

LECTURE SERIES CALENDAR FALL, 2007

Sep 18 - Zak Smith
Sep 25 - Nina Katchadourian
Oct 16 - Jonathan Schipper
Oct 30 - Jill Magid
Nov 27 - Bjorn Melhus
Dec 4 - Anna Schuliet

THIS UPCOMING TUESDAY: SEPTEMBER 18, 2007

Zak Smith, a Brooklyn based painter and illustrator has been known for his labor intensive, acrylic and –pen on paper portraits of himself and his friends. With a very fine attention to detail, Smith tends to portray people in complicated surroundings such as in a messy bedroom or an overflowing desk. Smith's portraits of his friends are complex collision of graphic photocopy-photo-realism upon lucid oversaturated expressionism. These poignantly drawn images have the ability to describe a particular uncanny element of youth culture.

According to the catalogue for the 2004 Whitney Biennial, Smith's "stylized portraits and acidic abstractions intimately capture stillness in an ever-encroaching world [with] a deconstructed neo-punk aesthetic conversant in comic book-style drawing, vivid psychedelic coloration, experimental photographic processes, and traditional draftsmanship".

Smith's recent projects include the recent publication of his book *Pictures Showing What Happens on Each Page of Thomas Pynchon's Gravity's Rainbow*, (Tin House Books, 2006) as well as the series *Pictures of Girls* (2005). He has received his Bachelors of Fine Arts from Cooper Union and his Masters of Fine Arts from Yale. His work is part of public collections at the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of Modern Art. He is represented by Fredericks and Freiser Gallery in New York.

ALL lectures are free and open to the public.