



Rowan Wood, *Bubble Solution # 8*, 2010. Oil on linen, 36 x 36 inches.

Rowan Wood
For the Benefit of Humanity

April 24 – May 22, 2010

Opening Reception
Saturday, April 24, 2010, 6 – 8 PM

Steve Turner Contemporary is pleased to present *For the Benefit of Humanity*, a solo exhibition featuring new paintings by the Los Angeles-based artist Rowan Wood in its main gallery. This is his first solo exhibition with the gallery.

The boundaries of visual language and the varieties of experience that art provokes are central concerns running throughout Rowan Wood's work. In his series titled *Copy*, Wood investigates the use of simple mark-making in an attempt to communicate without relying on familiar or pre-conceived forms. His *Cage* series paintings are statements on the limitations of human thought and the role words play in human life.

Wood's newest work will be featured in *For the Benefit of Humanity*, and in it, he has concentrated on several standard categories of expression within the discipline of painting. This body of work consists of a single visual message that is repeated in a spectrum of shifting compositions and protean categories, including autobiographical/psychological; formalism; and pop art.

Defining the values of a visual symbol that result in it falling under one category or another is fraught with problems and exemptions to the rules. Nevertheless, these boundaries present the possibility of control over expression while pre-determining elements that affect the experience of the work. Wood explores the use of control and manipulation in an attempt to evoke different, new, or undefined experiences.

S T E V E T U R N E R C O N T E M P O R A R Y

Born in San Francisco in 1977, Rowan Wood earned a BFA from UCLA in 2009. During his final year of study at UCLA he began two breakthrough bodies of work: Copy Paintings and Cage Paintings. They were introduced at Steve Turner Contemporary during Wet Paint (2009), an exhibition that featured the work of ten young Los Angeles painters, and were subsequently included in Panorama Los Angeles (ARCO Madrid, curated by Kris Kuramitsu and Christopher Miles, 2010).

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