

**NICOLA TYSON**

January 14 – February 11, 2006  
Opening Reception: Saturday, January 14, 2006

IMAGINATION I hold to be the living Power and prime Agent of all human Perception...A repetition in the finite mind of the eternal act of creation in the infinite I AM.

- Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Friedrich Petzel Gallery is pleased to present this exhibition of new works by Nicola Tyson. The exhibition will be comprised of twelve paintings.

In this body of work, **Nicola Tyson** explores the role of imagination and the unconscious, in the act of making the considered, contemporary painterly statement. Taking a slight step back from her usually very singular and solipsistic process, Tyson ponders artistic identity: the traditionally 'Romantic' idea of the artist, the painter, must be experienced as something of a lived fiction in contemporary culture.

**Tyson's** paintings operate in the space where figuration and abstraction meet, but are neither illustrational nor straightforwardly expressionistic or even existential: The initial images are arrived at through a process of intuitive, unpremeditated drawing, but in subsequently making a painting, she 'exploits' this personal material, so that it becomes merely another component of the painting, along with the paint application, the palette, the scale and so on.

Yet the images, both matter of fact and enigmatic, carry a psychological weight that defies easy categorization throwing the viewer back onto the constructions of their own unconscious.

**Nicola Tyson** lives and works in New York. Her work has been exhibited internationally and she has been the subject of a solo exhibition at the Kunsthalle Zurich. Her work is included in the collections of the Tate Gallery, London, Museum of Modern Art, New York, SF MOMA, The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C., and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum.

This will be Nicola Tyson's sixth solo exhibition with Friedrich Petzel Gallery. The exhibition will open January 14, with a reception from 6-8 p.m. and will be on view through February 11. For further information, please contact the gallery at 212-680-9467 or [info@petzel.com](mailto:info@petzel.com)