

UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 25 works

May 28-June 22, 2013

George Billis Gallery

521 W. 26th Street

New York, NY 10001

(212) 645-2621

● SHOW LOCATION NEW YORK, NY

BENNETT VADNAIS

Simplifying the city

Living in New York City, Bennett Vadnais is surrounded by the hustle-and-bustle of big city life, yet his acrylic paintings and drawings of the area are simple and stark. They are clean, crisp and precise renderings of locales including Bushwick, Upper East Manhattan, and East Harlem. Working not as a photorealist but from life and sketches, Vadnais' paintings are

at once general and specific.

"All of the paintings are of New York, but the thing that I think is different about them is they're very specific paintings of specific places, but they're generalized...", elaborates Vadnais. "I don't pick recognizable locations, but they still have the general aspect of a particular area."

The effects and lighting of places within

Vadnais' pieces typically are generalized, and he eliminates elements of the scenes such as cars. On the other hand, forms and structures that he paints or sketches tend to be specific. This lends for an overall idea of a place rather than an exact time. "I am trying to get away from it being a snapshot," he says. "It's a place divorced from a particular time. It's not a moment I am painting."



WEST WINDOW, OVERCAST, ACRYLIC ON BOARD, 9 X 12"



MORGAN AVE., CEMENT PLANT, ACRYLIC ON CANVAS, 13 X 21"



THE GUTTED BUILDING STUDY, GRAPHITE AND ACRYLIC ON PANEL, 15 X 30"



THIRD WARD, GRAPHITE AND ACRYLIC ON PANEL, 11 X 15"

With a studio in Bushwick and a home in the Upper East Side, Vadnais finds inspiration from his surroundings. Vantage points in his paintings are from all over including his window view. Many of the pieces also represent different impressions of the same subject with varying lighting and views. For example, *The Guttred Building* has three versions.

Sketches and studies are an important component to Vadnais' artwork. "One of the things that's really different about my work is it is not photorealistic. I do everything directly from life and a lot of pieces are done from drawings I make from life...it gives insight to how they're done and how they look in the end."

This grouping of new works will be on display at George Billis Gallery from May 28 to June 22. ●

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to  www.americanartcollector.com