

A.I.R.
GALLERY
511 West 25th Street
NYC, NY 10001
TEL: 212.255.6651
FAX: 212.255.6653
www.airnyc.org
tues. - sat., 11-6

Kharis Kennedy:

Fixed Value

December 4 – January 5, 2008

Opening Reception

Thursday, January 6, 6pm - 8pm



NEW YORK, NY, NOVEMBER 16, 2007 — FIXED VALUE, A.I.R. Gallery 2007-2008 Fellowship Award Recipient, Kharis Kennedy explores the subjective versus the objective with her series of paintings *Fixed Value* which will be on exhibition at A.I.R. Gallery during the month of December. *Fixed Value* opens with a reception on Thursday, December 6, 2007 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and runs through January 5, 2008.

FIXED VALUE represents a three year exploration into the possibility of creating artworks that exist only to fulfill predetermined, objective, measurable criteria. The series consists of 27 paintings divided into three subgroups. As constants each painting uses the same subject matter (a flower arrangement and a stuffed dog) and is the same size (17.25" x 23.25"). The three groups each explore one of the key attributes that a physicist would use to describe any object: light, mass or energy. Kennedy devised a method to construct the nine paintings in each group that varies only the value of the attribute being studied, while keeping all remaining attributes of the painting constant.

Says Kennedy about the series, "I want to find out what it would feel like to encounter a room filled with the same still life, painted over and over again, varying each time only in order to fulfill different objective criteria."

The series addresses the use of subjective terminology to critique artwork and opposes the notion of "artistic value," instead offering empirical value and measurement for each work of art.

Kharis Kennedy has been working as a studio artist since 1999 and currently lives and works in New York City. She earned her BFA in Painting and Drawing and a BA in Art History at the University of Washington. Though her background is primarily in painting, much of her recent work is conceptual multi-media pieces. Most recently she and long time collaborator Rick McIntire premiered two evening length presentations of *Yamabushi + Spielerfrau*, a multi-disciplinary performance inspired by the possibilities of the random juxtaposition of their silent film *Yamabushi* with live music performed by the band *Spielerfrau*. In the fall of 2007 Kennedy, McIntire, costume designer / sculptor Agata Olek Oleksiak, and dance choreographer Bryon Carr will present "Dr. M. Vs. Capt. R.," a collaborative piece incorporating dance, projected images, recorded music and sculptural costuming.

Kharis Kennedy was recently awarded a 2007-2008 A.I.R. Gallery Fellowship which made the realization of *Fixed Value* possible.

A.I.R. Gallery is located at 511 West 25th Street, NYC. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 11am-6pm. For information please contact the director, Kat Griefen at 212.255.6651 or kgriefen@airgallery.org.



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