



Art cafe

A new suite of works by Bari Kumar's 'Acceptance of Denial'

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An exhibition of new work by Bari Kumar

Artist Bari Kumar's work operates at the intersection of knowledge and obscurity. The versatile artist creates paintings, fiber-constructions and video works that portray a mélange of seemingly disparate icons layered with fragmented, censored, and abstracted human forms.

As an artist whose creative vocabulary is derivative of placing oneself within multiple communities, he is drawn to exploring the multiplicity of visual culture. He clearly engages with the dialogue inherent in the visual landscape of street art. His work references the subtle fluctuation of agency between sanctioned and illicit public displays. An exhibition of his new work titled 'Acceptance of Denial' is on at Bose Pacia, NY till December 22, 2007.

Born in Andhra Pradesh in 1966, he studied at the Rishi Valley School in India founded by the philosopher J. Krishnamurthi and thereafter, obtained a BFA in Graphic Design from the Otis/ Parsons School of Design in Los Angeles.

According to the artist, his work is an extension of the intricate dialogue of street art. There is a certain staccato effect to the covering and recovering of images in visual culture. When an advertisement goes up it is soon thereafter partially or totally obscured with the text and symbols of graffiti artists. This, in turn, is often supplanted by the monotone blockade of painted censorship by local administrators.

As an introductory note to the exhibition mentions: "The cyclical dialogue is set to perpetual repeat. When trying to "read" these images it quickly becomes clear that the extensive covering and recovering is more complex than can ever be fully deciphered. He offers scenarios, characters and clues in the form of stylistic devices, stacking order and symbols but almost immediately sets in play the quirky, Derrida-like, multiplicity of meaning that is bound to complicate communication attempts."

This complicated communication through images mimics the complications of presenting and understanding the psychology of oneself and others. The paintings in 'Acceptance of Denial' examine the various stages of discovery and understanding.