

ZACH FEUER GALLERY

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Zach Feuer Gallery
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Exhibition dates: March 13 – April 25, 2009

Opening reception: Friday, March 13, 6-8

Dana Schutz ***Missing Pictures***

Zach Feuer Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition of new paintings by Dana Schutz.

For her latest exhibition, *Missing Pictures*, Schutz depicts halted hobbyists, demonstrative group efforts, therapeutic situations, and fragments of people passing time. These tableaux take place in late-afternoon interiors, constructed stage-like settings and isolated pastoral landscapes that appear to be at the edge of an industrialized world. The paintings depict activities that precede an event, making visible the pictorial moment, frozen and deferred, before an image comes into being and form becomes manifest.

Here, Schutz treats the picture as a material, a malleable situation where the rearrangement of objects is implied. Bodies are props and seem to have come from a previous context. Some paintings on view depict suspended narratives in which the objects and characters appear to have been singed, as if something terrible happened from outside the frame. In one painting 'before' and 'after' collide as a small religious group tries to reassemble a car and driver after an accident. Singers never finish their songs, contracts remain unsigned and writers hover on the cusp of the next letter. Passing time is implied as trains cut through frozen scenes and clouds scroll by an introspective sculpture that has managed to sit on, merge with and block out an otherwise festive couple.

In Schutz's new work, preliminary information, such as schematic stains and thumbnail sketches, remain visible and are incorporated into the finished paintings. Linear marks deface the picture. Features peel off their subjects. Spaces dissolve as washes misalign with patterned fields. As Schutz shows us around the sunny and anxious territory of her most recent fiction, the paintings unmake themselves in front of us.

Dana Schutz was born in 1976 in Livonia, Michigan. She lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. This is her fourth solo exhibition at Zach Feuer Gallery.