

OMEGA POINT ARTIST RYAN WALLACE'S SOLO SHOW AT GUERRERO GALLERY WITH HILARY PECIS IN THE PROJECT ROOM – STORY BY ROMAN KOVAL FOR WARHOLIAN



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On February 12, 2011, Guerrero Gallery opened “Omega Point” and “Half Truths and Outright Lies,” with work by Ryan Wallace and Hilary Pecis. The show features two complementing bodies of work; the ethereal and introspective mixed media pieces of Ryan Wallace as well as Pecis’ fantastical landscapes that embrace the oversaturation of images we receive on a daily basis. Wallace’s paintings are objects more than they are paintings, like synapses of a brain at work they invite the viewer to a time before the big bang, where as much is revealed as is hidden. By layering mixed media onto canvas, wood panel, and paper, Wallace maps the human consciousness and the perception of objective experience. By using the gallery’s natural light, the pieces attain an ever-shifting holiness, as base layers that are invisible when confronting a piece directly emerge as you catch a glimpse from the corner of your eye. It is as if there are multiple paintings within the one surface that confronts the viewer, and they only make themselves available as one moves through the space. An intricate dichotomy arises between the cosmological musings of the Omega Point series and the Glean series; while one deals with a more abstract intangible, the other presents a more physical approach that recalls the layers of a cityscape, torn and covered up and put back together by the artist. In the Omega Point series in particular, the viewer is like a forensics offices searching for hidden material that becomes available as the many paintings within one surface, revealing the aura and essence of the material. Likewise, the Glean series has an outside and inside that shifts depending on the viewers perspective.

Hilary Pecis’ “Half Truths and Outright Lies” draws from the oversaturation of images encountered in the new virtual world. Her digital collages are reminiscent of jazz; the

dissociative placement of objects and established elements into a cohesive whole is executed with acute precision, but still call out to genuine human experience as opposed to the passing down of imagery and information from one person to another until it is diluted to its most bare form. Her work sets a very specific and familiar place to all of us. Her landscapes look like a synthesis of the images seen by everyone with access to a computer and the internet, which is to say almost everyone, and suggest what cyberspace would look like if one were to enter it in a physical state. One of the most important messages that the collages seemed to suggest is that our dreams at the end of the day no longer come from tangible daily experience, but intangible cyber-experience which for some people has completely replaced physical experience. It is as if the collages speak in a sardonic and sarcastic tone at the viewer “why would you go look at a real flower, if you can just see it on Google Images?”

- story by [Roman Koval](#) for Warholian

To see the show visit Guerrero Gallery at: <http://www.GuerreroGallery.com>

For more on Ryan Wallace's art visit: <http://www.ryanmwallace.com/>

For more on the work of Hilary Pecis visit: <http://www.hilarypecis.com/>

All photos by Michael Cuffe for Warholian.com

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