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GALL
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Mark Moore Gallery
5790 Washington Blvd.
Culver City, CA 90232
T. 310.453.3031 F. 310.453.3831
www.markmooregallery.com
Tues – Sat, 11a – 6p



Patti Oleon

Elsewhere

Opening Reception: November 23, 6-8p
On View Through December 21, 2013

Mark Moore Gallery proudly presents "Elsewhere" in the Project Room, an exhibition of new work by San Francisco-based painter, Patti Oleon. Predominantly intrigued by light and the tenuous nature of appearances, Oleon begins by taking photographs of public interior spaces devoid of human presence. These often include hotel and apartment lobbies, TV and movie set locations, and museum period rooms - all of which appear disassociated from contemporaneous place and time. Once translated into her illusory oil paintings, these spaces represent an ambiguous reality that delves into viewer's unique psyche and memory

In this exhibition, Oleon debuts a newfound interest in dramatic manipulation and enhancement of objects and settings. Perhaps inspired by the ubiquitous nature of digital augmentation in commonplace imagery, Oleon emphasizes the affecting qualities of atmosphere and illumination rather than a loyalty to pure reality – as if ruminating on the emotional projections we apply to our recollections. Like ornate Rorschach patterns, Oleon's compositions suggest a disjointed narrative familiar to all, but specific to none; mirrored staircases, reversed corridors, and inverted shadows coalesce into kaleidoscopic dwellings rife with evocative allusion. Through their enigmatic allure, Oleon's paintings bridge reality with the surreal, simultaneously discrediting and embracing the idiosyncrasies of the physical world.

Patti Oleon (b. 1954, St. Louis) received both her MFA and BA from UCLA. She has exhibited nationwide at institutions such as Santa Monica Museum of Art (CA), the Zimmer Children's Museum/Jewish Federation of Los Angeles (CA), San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose (CA), Stremmel Gallery (NV), Kidder Smith Gallery (MA), and Sears-Peyton Gallery (NY). Oleon has also twice been the recipient of a Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant, a Guggenheim Foundation Grant, and a Fulbright/DAAD Fellowship among other distinctions and awards. The artist lives and works in San Francisco (CA).