

**UPCOMING GROUPSHOW**

*Up to 35 works on show  
May 5 - June 15, 2007  
Timothy Yarger Fine Art  
329 N. Beverly Drive,  
Beverly Hills CA 90210  
(301) - 278 -4400*

• SHOW LOCATION BEVERLY HILLS, CA

## Corpus Maximus 2007

### Alexander Rokoff, Ray Turner, and Steve Hudson

Timothy Yarger Fine Art Curator Bryson Strauss likes what he sees in contemporary figured of painting, especially the works for Alexander Rokoff, Ray Turner, and Steve Hudson.

For the last 20 years these painters have battle against contemporary trends in art and academia. They've helped carry the torch for figure painting and evolve the genre into impressive, new styles. Strauss sees each of the artists as equally important to the New Figurative movement.

"Rokoff, Turner and Hudson employ the human figure as a powerful tool in expressing their personal narrative and attitudes towards the modern human condition," says Strauss. "Embracing classic painterly styles and historic references, they lure viewers in with the familiar and then seize them with pressing fresh imagery."

Strauss was drawn to the artists' work because they have the skills to convey their concepts visually, without relying on essays or artists' statements. "They've worked so hard at their craft, they can execute exactly what they imagine," Strauss says. "One cannot become a figurative painter without dedication focus and commitment craftsmanship. Good figurative artists are therefore, not hampered by a limited skill set. They can command abstraction, minimalism, work with the human form, work with pigment, and a myriad of mediums, all with ease and dexterity."

Strauss says his current exhibition proves the New Figurative movement isn't only a respected new element in contemporary art, but is something that has been in the making for quite some time. "As a young artist, it takes raw courage to put yourself out there as a figurative painter, and it's damn risky," he says. "That goes for gallerists as well. There has always been a bandwagon mentality in the arts, and that trend has been against figurative for decades. With Corpus Maximus, we are making a firm statement that within the context of major trends in contemporary art, figuration definitely represents a new edge. It's non-academic. It's not trendy. It's young and it has something important to say."

Rokoff is a perfect example of this new breed of young figurative painters, according to Strauss. "You can see all the amazing elements in his work," he says "This artist will quote directly from the great European masters, but his paintings are absolutely young, contemporary, and specifically urban. This is today's painter, the painter who represents the now, and captures the unique social vibe and mood of creative young America." •



**ALEXANDER ROKOFF, INVENTOR, OIL ON BOARD, 48 X 36"**





**ALEXANDER ROKOFF, THE CHAMP, OIL ON BOARD, 60 X 48"**