



1117 W. Lake Street
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAB Gallery Presents

The Contradictions

Timothy Ripley and Timothy Van Laar

March 14 through April 12, 2008

Reception: Friday March 14 6-9pm

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NAB Gallery is pleased to present *The Contradictions*, an exhibition of Chicago based artists Timothy Van Laar and Timothy Ripley, whose work injects contemporary attitudes toward image making into the time-honored medium of paint. Timothy Van Laar's recent sketch-like paintings apply a cut and paste approach the history of painting. He draws liberally from eras and styles as different as geometric abstraction, ab-ex, and representational painting and combines them on the same canvas. This sampling results in tense, disjunctive compositions that have the feeling of interrupted thoughts. Similarly conversant with art history, Timothy Ripley employs an earnest photo-realistic technique to render dramatically lit still lifes of crudely formed sculpy figurines representing themes favored by teenage burn-outs, such as boobs, smiley faces and magic mushrooms. The exquisite technique sharply contrasts with the banality of the subject matter, and presents distinct levels of representation and sophistication.

Timothy Ripley is an instructor of fine arts at Columbia College. He earned his BA in fine art from Columbia College and his MFA in painting from Northwestern University. Recent exhibitions include The Southbend Regional Museum of Art, The Contemporary Art Workshop, and The Chicago Cultural Center.

Currently he is a Professor of Art at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Timothy Van Laar's paintings, drawings and installations that have been exhibited throughout North America and Europe, including recent exhibitions in Berlin and The Netherlands. He is co-author of two books and has also written numerous reviews and catalog essays. Van Laar's work is in numerous collections and he has received fellowships, grants and other support from Fulbright, Yaddo, Pew Charitable Trusts, Henry Luce Foundation and many others.