



GARY KOMARIN: *THE STILL WATER OF YOUR MOUTH*
UNDER A THICKET OF KISSES

Artist's Reception: Thursday, September 6, 2012, 6 - 8PM
September 6 - October 7, 2012

ARC Fine Art LLC is pleased to announce the upcoming exhibition of paintings and works on paper by Gary Komarin. On view from September 6 thru October 7, 2012, with an Artist's Reception on Thursday, September 6th, Komarin's *The Still Water of Your Mouth Under a Thicket of Kisses* is the artist's first solo exhibition at the gallery.

Born in New York City to a Czech architect and a Viennese writer, Komarin now lives and works in Roxbury, Connecticut. After attending the Brooklyn Museum School and the New York Studio School, Komarin received his MFA in Painting from Boston University where he was a student of Philip Guston. Guston's influence is evident in Komarin's mergence of drawing and painting often breaking the picture plane of his rich and elegantly composed color fields with an assortment of private iconic cake and vessel-like objects. Preferring non- art industrial canvas tarps and drop cloths, Komarin eschews traditional painting media and materials. He builds layered surfaces with latex house paint in a thinned out sluice mixed with spackle and water. The house paint offers hybrid colors that seem slightly 'off' and the spackle creates a beautiful matte surface. Using color energetically, the quick drying materials allow him to paint with a sense of urgency, which mirrors the tension created by conflicting renderings of the spontaneous and the deliberate, the conscious and the unconscious or the strange and familiar. The resultant image is one that appears familiar but resists recognition.

The exhibition will include a selection of large-scale oils on canvas from his various series: *Suite of Blue Sea*, *Dirty White*, and *Rue Madame* as well as a selection of works on paper from his celebrated *Cakes* and *Duke and Wigmore* series. While the *Suite of Blue Sea* paintings clearly reference the sea and sand with their prominent horizontal bands of blue, the remaining portion of their canvases offer expanses for Komarin's rich yet unexplained vocabulary of doodles and gestures. These distinctive, often playful, markings also occupy the artist's *Dirty White* and *Rue Madame* series. Gestures become objects in his *Cake* series, which converge the architectural and domestic pursuits of his parents. His drawing takes on a more topographical tone in his *Duke and Wigmore* series, which loosely reference place, maps, and grids. Regardless of subject or series, Komarin's work expresses a unique and highly imaginative vision of color, form, and line.

Over the past 30 years, Komarin's art has been featured in exhibitions across the globe, including a seminal, early exhibition with Guston and Basquiat at 41 Greene Street in New York. Most recently, Komarin's art has been exhibited in Tokyo (Moon Flows Like a Willow by Yoshii Foundation), New York, Zurich (Galerie Proarta), Los Angeles (Bonbright Gallery) and Prague. Following this exhibition at ARC Fine Art, the artist will prepare for shows in Dublin, Madrid, London, and Korea. Reviewed by *The New York Times*, *Art in America* and *Arts Magazine*, Komarin has been honored with many awards, grants, and fellowships, including the prestigious Joan Mitchell

Prize in Painting and the Edward Albee Foundation Fellowship in Painting. His work is featured in the following museum collections: the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Denver Art Museum, the Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi; the Montclair Art Museum, the Newark Museum, the Zimmerli Museum, the Yoshii Foundation, Tokyo, the Arkansas Museum of Contemporary Art, Boston University Museum of Fine Arts, among others.

ARC Fine Art is located at 3113 Bronson Road in Fairfield, Connecticut and is open by appointment. Further inquiries, please contact Adrienne Ruger Conzelman at 203 895 9595.