

55 MERCER GALLERY 55 MERCER STREET NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10013
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PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Attention: Listings Editors

EMOTIONAL MIRROR – NEW PAINTINGS BY ED RATH

January 30 – February 24, 2007

RECEPTION
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
AT 55 MERCER GALLERY, NYC

Featuring twenty recent acrylic paintings by Brooklyn artist Ed Rath, this exhibition explores a range of transformative emotional states related to grief and mourning. A prior exhibition, *Grieved and Bereaved in Brooklyn*, produced shortly after the death of his wife two years ago, provided the impetus for this new collection. “I had not anticipated the positive reaction to a body of work that revealed some of the most painful, most hopeless aspects of loss,” notes the artist. “Those early personal expressions struck a chord with many others. Looking at those paintings now, I see in some the genesis of the “Emotional Mirror” series—which represents a progression from abject pain to an exploration of a new physical and emotional ‘lifescape.’”

Ed Rath’s explorations culminate in scenes featuring a diverse range of subjects imbued with symbolic meaning. As mysteriously arrayed as the dream world itself, the subjects are yet grounded in a familiar reality that all who have suffered know.

“I painted primarily because I couldn’t keep myself from it, even during the worst of times,” Ed explains. “I didn’t know what would come of it. I was surprised by what did. In expressing myself the way I always had, I discovered not only a reaffirmation for painting, but a renewed purpose to uncover the mysteries of our collective spiritual essence. Dreams, memories, and imaginary landscapes are featured in these colorful, joyful works. In these images, sadness is transformed into beauty, doubt and pain are rendered to stone, and the longing for things past is quelled by the freshness of the moment.”

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT ED RATH AT (718) 855-8178

Other works by Ed Rath can be seen at: <http://edrath.com/>

Join us at the reception Saturday, February 3rd, 2007 6-8 p.m.