

Lisa Cooley

34 Orchard Street
New York, New York 10002
frontdesk@lisa-cooley.com
www.lisa-cooley.com
P 212-680-0564
F 212-680-0565

Flash Art

The World's Leading Art Magazine • International Edition • Vol. XLII • No. 269 • November - December 2009 • US \$8.00 • €7.00

JON PESTONI & ZAK PREKOP LISA COOLEY - NEW YORK



Jon Pestoni, *Bird Food*, 2009. Oil on canvas, 61 x 61 cm. Courtesy Lisa Cooley, New York. Photo: Ron Amstutz.

Working well with others, the paintings of Jon Pestoni and Zak Prekop hum in playful juxtaposition. Respectively they produce abstract paintings with areas of super-matte color. In both, the decision process is integral and revealed by the structure of the work.

The pieces of Pestoni are reduced, direct and forceful. *Horizontal Hold (2)* (2009) is strong and simple. Rough alternating brush strokes of yellow and brown hover Rothko-like on a creamy ground. Transparency and

layering inhabit some of the paintings in a way that suggests we are looking through to something underneath.

Prekop takes a more understated approach with colors of closer value. Many paintings use a cut and tear, paste and collage approach, which delineates the painting structure. Quirky lines cross a white ground in *Untitled* (2009). Its hesitant patches of red paint seem a form of negation. Other works suggest linear fractures through the subtle application of lines and marks that link elements.

Using lively thought and formal elements, both of these artists are engaged in creating their own structural realities through painting. These works challenge the viewer to enter their respective endeavors with fresh and surprising results.

Gregory Montreuil