

PAUL KASMIN GALLERY

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Exhibitions of new paintings at Paul Kasmin Gallery
September 2016



Ian Davenport, *Cadmium Yellow*, 2016.
Acrylic on stainless steel mounted to aluminum panel,
78 3/4 x 78 3/4 inches, 200 x 200 cm.

NEW YORK, NY.- [Paul Kasmin Gallery](#) presents Doubletake, an exhibition of new paintings by the British artist Ian Davenport, on view from September 8 – October 22, 2016 at 293 Tenth Avenue in New York. This is his first solo show at the gallery since 2013.

In Doubletake, Davenport explores the chromatic essence of historical masterpieces, the palette of many of the paintings being inspired by a canonical work. He has ranged widely through history for his sources, paying homage to paintings spanning from the 16th century to the 20th, creating a remarkable record of a painter's taste and powerfully demonstrating how a great tradition of historical pictures can inform contemporary art. His technique, driven by an enduring fascination with the materiality of paint and the process of painting, is similar in each. First, after studying the painting in depth and gaining an intuitive understanding of its colors and hues, he goes to work using his signature technique, which delivers elegant vertical lines cascading down the panels into rich puddles of color.

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Their effect is both sublime, in their evocation of waterfalls, and subliminal, in their reminders of history. Referenced paintings include Van Gogh's "The Church in Auvers-sur-Oise, View from the Chevet", (1890) pulling out the rich blues of the sky, the green and beige from the lawn and path, and the reds from the roof of the church. Other works that have inspired him include Jan Brueghel the Elder's "Flowers In A Wooden Vessel," (1606), "Mada Primavesi" (1912) by Gustav Klimt, and "The Marriage of the Virgin" (1504) by the Italian Renaissance master Perugino. Each time, Davenport uses the colors in the historical work as a reference point to initiate his own color sequences and explorations of movement, surface and light. In so doing, he questions how color gives shape to a picture, helping to structure the background and foreground in representational pictures, and produce rhythm and dynamism in abstract art.

Davenport (b. 1966, Kent, England), studied at Goldsmiths College of Art in London. In 1988, he exhibited in the Damien Hirst-curated Freeze exhibition which first brought together many of the Young British Artists. He was nominated for the Turner Prize in 1991. Davenport has exhibited internationally over the past two decades, most recently in solo exhibitions in Geneva, and São Paulo, and in group shows such including the Royal Academy, London (2015). His work is to be found in major collections worldwide, including the Tate, London; the Weltkunst Collection, Zurich; Arts Council Collection, London; Borusan Art Gallery, Istanbul; The British Council; Daimler Chrysler Collection, Stuttgart and the Dallas Museum of Art, Texas. The artist lives and works in London.