

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HENRY HOPPER

People Are Other People

November 7 - December 3

Contact:

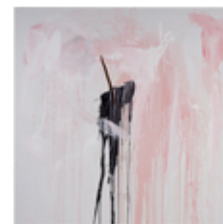
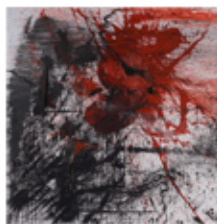
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FRANK PICTURES GALLERY PRESENTS HENRY HOPPER IN A DEBUT SOLO EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS, NOVEMBER 9th THROUGH DECEMBER 3rd AT BERGAMOT STATION.

Art stars appear maybe once a generation and Frank Pictures Gallery is privileged to introduce Henry Hopper, a young painter of singular vision in his debut solo show of paintings, *People Are Other People*. The progeny of actor/artist Dennis Hopper and actress/dancer Katherine LaNasa, Henry Hopper has put aside a burgeoning career in the cinema (master of horror director, Wes Craven, already offered Henry the lead in his next film) to focus on painting and performance at Cal Arts, where he enrolled as a freshman this September. "Many people in the art world will say that 18 is too young for a solo show at an established gallery," says Frank Pictures owner/curator Laurie Frank, "but sometimes a talent is too obvious and too bold to be held back. This is definitely Henry's first moment in what will be a long and brilliant career." But Hopper's route to having that show was as serendipitous for Frank as it was for Henry. The gallerist was serving on the auction committee of Inner City Arts, an organization that provides programs in visual arts, ceramics, dance, music, drama, poetry, and other language arts to homeless kids at its campus in an underserved downtown neighborhood. Frank donated a one-night exhibition at her gallery as an auction item for the non-profit. Katherine LaNasa, a long time supporter of Inner City Arts, won the bid as a surprise for her son. When Frank first viewed Hopper's paintings in storage at L.A. Packing and Crating, all the art-weary and rather jaded seen-it-all-before employees (L.A. Packing stores the work of just about every important artist and collector in Los Angeles) took time out to rave about Henry Hopper's work. When Frank saw the paintings, they were a revelation. "I know how Warhol felt when he saw his first Basquiat," says Frank, "I walked in Laurie Frank and I came out Sonnabend."

Hopper calls his show *People Are Other People* after a quote by Oscar Wilde, "Most people are other people. Their thoughts are someone else's opinions, their lives a mimicry, their passions a quotation." Hopper sees his large-scale abstract paintings as portraits of himself and others. "In these several paintings, I have attempted to render images of purity, or non-linear 'emotional landscapes'," says Hopper. "I was very inspired by the purely abstract paintings of Diebenkorn, to which the artist Martin Facey responded: 'The artwork is less like a noun and more like a verb.' [Diebenkorn] would render completely abstruse paintings and title them things like 'Airplane' or 'Albuquerque'. My own approach to this philosophical technique was to examine my relationships with humans as opposed to objects. I had lost all sense of direction when painting abstractly, and I began to find my internal dialogue constantly revolving around my experiences with others. While painting, I kept the immediacy and the subtleties of each relationship in the foreground of my emotional being. Each piece is symbolic of the context in which each relationship exists. They are not portraits in the traditional sense, as both my subject and I are visible and invisible. Material (energy) is then circularly run around these two objects, and the two are constantly in flux, the artist influencing this world, and the world influencing the artist."



People Are Other People Runs From November 7 Through December 3;
Opening Reception Sunday, November 9, 6:30-9:30 pm by invitation only.

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Tuesday - Saturday 11:30am - 6:30pm

