

**JAMES
HARRIS
GALLERY**
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PRESS RELEASE



Patrick Driscoll:

Selected Paintings

September 5 to October 12, 2013

Opening Reception:

Thursday, Sept 5th, 6-8PM

Gallery Hours are:

Wed. - Sat. 11:00am - 5:00pm

Tuesday by appointment

Additional images are available upon request

James Harris Gallery is pleased to present our first solo exhibition by Patrick Driscoll. The show will incorporate three series of work: *Catch-alls*, *Offers* and *Pictures*. The artist's practice centers on painting and incorporates both abstraction and representational imagery. Driscoll paints on un-stretched canvas, taping off an area leaving a large border. At first glance, his paintings reveal a disparate array of styles but on repeated viewing connections are made between subject matter, brushwork, composition and gesture. He purposefully mines painting's history for points of reference to trigger familiarity. This mixture of conventions is intended to appear inconsistent. It is meant to reflect a contemporary experience and how visual information is processed and broken down.

The core of his practice is an investigation of the conventions of painting, expanding its vocabulary while collapsing the hierarchy of the medium itself. For the artist, the removal of the stretcher bar is a key element to his practice; before beginning a group of paintings the artist lines his studio walls with drop cloths. The canvases are then stapled onto top in rows. As Driscoll works, excess paint from his brush is wiped onto the drop cloth. Once the finished paintings are taken down, the artist removes the stained drop cloth from the wall. The drop cloth becomes a visual record of his painting process. Titled "Catch-alls," these drop cloths are then stretched and displayed as traditional paintings. As for Driscoll's fully formed paintings titled "Offers" and "Pictures" they remain un-stretched. They are often pinned onto a wall or exhibited in stacks on the floor; sometime even folded over. Each loose work is placed on top of one another and the viewer has to move them one at a time.

Patrick Driscoll is a painter living and working in Portland, Oregon. Born in 1984 in Marquette, Michigan, he received his BFA in painting from Indiana University's Herron School of Art and Design in 2008. In 2012, he received his MFA in Visual Studies from the Pacific Northwest College of Art, where he was nominated for the prestigious Joan Mitchell Foundation MFA grant program for painters and sculptors. He has shown throughout the Pacific Northwest and the Midwest, including the recent juried Annual at Seattle's Center on Contemporary Art, and a solo exhibition at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham, OR