

STEVEN ZEVITAS GALLERY

450 Harrison Avenue #47, Boston, Massachusetts 02118
www.stevenzevitasgallery.com / 617 778 5265 x22

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

12.12.2013

John Dilg: *This Land is Your Land*

Boston, MA – Steven Zevitas Gallery is pleased to present *This Land is Your Land*, an exhibition of recent paintings by Iowa-based artist, **John Dilg**. The exhibition will be on view from Thursday, December 13 through Saturday, February 1, 2014, with an opening reception Friday, January 3, 2014.

On View: December 13, 2013 – February 1, 2014

Reception: Friday, January 3, 2014, 5:30 – 8 PM

Over the past several years a number of deserving mature artists have gained wider recognition. In some cases the lack of initial attention had to do with media and/or subject matter not attuned the times in which these artists emerged. For others, geography has been an obstacle. John Dilg is one such artist. Having spent the majority of his career in Iowa City, far away from the hubbub of large urban art scenes, Dilg's work is only now starting to be appreciated by a wider audience.

Dilg's paintings are intimate in scale, delicately brushed and chromatically restrained. As the show's title suggests, his imagery is drawn from the American landscape. In some cases figures or animals are included, but they are often left unpopulated. Dilg is more interested in archetypal forms than specificity of place, and his paintings brim with highly personal markers and emblems. There is an extraordinary economy to his paintings that belies the scale that they are able to achieve in the viewer's mind.

The show's title carries a double meaning. The "land" that Dilg is most interested in exploring is not that which exists outside of us, rather, that which is within each of us. He is deeply interested in how the contemporary landscape, and in a more general sense place, inform our individual and collective realities, and so form a bridge between nature and the unconscious. As Dilg has stated:

My chief pleasure is to make idiosyncratic constructs, personal souvenirs of something seen before; in this, they are allied to our virtual world, since all souvenirs take their life from that which no longer actually exists.

Dilg received a BFA in Painting and Filmmaking from the Rhode Island School of Design, and has taught at the University of Iowa, where he is currently a Professor of Painting and Drawing, since the mid-1970s. Dilg is the recipient of a Fulbright Grant to India, a National Endowment of the Arts Individual Artist Fellowship, and three Residency Fellowships at the Yaddo Foundation. His extensive exhibition record includes recent one-man shows at Luise Ross Gallery in New York City and Schmidt Contemporary Art in St. Louis. Group exhibitions include shows at Sikkema, Jenkins & Co. and Andrea Rosen Gallery, both in New York City. This is the artist's first exhibition at Steven Zevitas Gallery.

The artist will be in attendance for an opening reception on Friday, January 3rd from 5:30 – 8:00 PM. For additional information, please contact Steven Zevitas at 617.778.5265 (ext. 22). Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11AM – 5 PM.