

November 8, 2007

## STRICOFF FINE ART, LTD

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**On Thursday, November 29th, Stricoff Fine Art, 564 W. 25<sup>th</sup> St., will present an exhibition of new paintings by Debra Goertz.**



In this show, Goertz uses family photography from her childhood as an impetus to explore issues of memory and reality, process and paint.

Begun during a two-month residency in Newfoundland and continued in her Brooklyn studio, Goertz's new work asks questions like, "Are childhood recollections 'real' memories or just memories of photographs? Do family photographs

reinforce childhood memory or do they aid in construction of a family mythology? Can the scrutiny involved in the process of painting infuse the photographic image with layers of real memory?"

In these paintings, layers of time and place advance or recede as Goertz paints, destabilizing the pictorial space and compressing multiple narrative lines into one image. The stark beauty of Newfoundland's land and seascape stands in contrast to the intimacy of the family images. Inconsistencies in the handling of various surface areas serve as a metaphor for the fragmented nature of memory and experience. While aspects of these images may be personal to Goertz, she assembles them in a way that evokes the universal mystery of truth in childhood memory and family lore.

Goertz teaches drawing and painting at Parsons New School for Design, the New York Academy of Art and the Lyme Academy College of Fine Art. She lives and maintains a studio in Brooklyn.

**Goertz's work will be exhibited from November 29 until December 11 along with the paintings of Jane LaFarge Hamill. Preview party is from 5-7pm on Thursday, November 29 and Artists Reception is 4-7pm on Saturday, December 1.**