

PRESS RELEASE

CHELSEAARTGALLERY

Silicon Valley

MATTHEW RADFORD *RANDOM EMPIRES*

15 September – 15 October 2006

British artist débuts new work at Chelsea Art Gallery

Media Preview: Wed., 13 September 2006, 6 – 9 p.m.

Private View: Fri., 15 September 2006, 6 – 9 p.m.



Rush Fragment III, oil on canvas, 58 x 56 in., 2006.

5 August 2006 **PALO ALTO**, California – Chelsea Art Gallery, Silicon Valley is pleased to announce British artist Matthew Radford's upcoming solo exhibition, *Random Empires*, opening September 15th. In preparation for this extensive exhibition, Radford has spent the last eight months producing new work in his studio and a flight of monotypes at Pauper's Press in London. His work investigates the unique visual and spatial relationships found as one encounters moving figures in mass, and comments on the nature of crowds and the "human in the system," a prominent theme throughout his career. Radford studied at St. Alban's and the Camberwell Schools of Art in London in the early 70s, after which he pursued teaching, which led him to New York as an instructor at The Drawing Center and The New York Studio School in the 80s and early 90s. His time in London and New York has undoubtedly imparted an urban sensitivity to his work and has led him to excavate the essence of the dynamic flux encountered on urban center streets and in public spaces. With his new work, Radford continues to pursue this interest but has begun to intertwine his well-known painterly, expressionist surfaces with grids and other elements that reference pixilation and digital printing processes. Through the conflation of these contrasting techniques, he enhances subtleties in each and begins to create a new dialogue for painting. Radford has shown extensively with Grace Borgenicht in New York and Houldsworth Fine Art in London, and has been collected by Credit Suisse, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the New York Public Library, and the Yale Center for British Art. Radford first exhibited with Chelsea Art during its acclaimed contemporary portraiture exhibition, *Face Value* (December 2005/January 2006), alongside other prizewinners and commended artists from the international B.P. Portrait Award, held annually at London's National Portrait Gallery.

In conjunction with the exhibition is a media preview on Wednesday, September 13th, from 6 to 9 p.m. Radford will be present for photography and interview options. All media inquiries and image requests can be addressed to a Gallery Representative at 650.324.4450 or to info@chelseaartgallery.com. Also, the private view is scheduled for Friday, September 15th, from 6 to 9 p.m. Champagne and canapés will be served; event photography by JGH Photography. Space is limited; please R.S.V.P. to a Gallery Representative at 650.324.4450 or info@chelseaartgallery.com. For more information on Radford or to preview the exhibition, visit www.chelseaartgallery.com.

Chelsea Art Gallery Silicon Valley is located at 440 Kipling Street between Lytton and University Avenues in downtown Palo Alto. Hours are Wednesday through Saturday 11 to 7 p.m., Sunday 12 to 5p.m., and by appointment. Chelsea Art is free and open to the public.



Random Empires, oil on canvas, 90 x 112 in., 2006.