

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Peter Mendenhall Gallery
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RAIMONDS STAPRANS

November 15 – December 27, 2008
Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 11:00 am – 5:30 pm
Opening Reception: Saturday, November 15, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

The Peter Mendenhall Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of recent paintings by Raimonds Staprans.

A Latvian by birth, the San Francisco-based Staprans is internationally known for his color-infused minimalist painting. Often referred to as an abstract realist, his work is marked by intense observations of the seen world, but one filtered and abstracted through highly subjective artistic and personal filters. The resulting landscapes and still lifes, often lush, sensuous, and beautiful, are infused with psychological and emotional depths from Staprans' self described own "floating anxieties."

In 2006, the Latvian National Museum of Art in Riga, Latvia mounted a comprehensive survey of his work, *Raimonds Staprans: Paintings*. Curated by Elita Ansone, the exhibition was accompanied by a catalogue under the same name with essays by Ansone and Latvian Minister of Culture, Helena Demakova. In the same year, he was also the subject of an exhibition at the Pasadena Museum of California Art. Curated by art historian Paul Karlstrom, the show was also accompanied by a monograph, *Raimonds Staprans: Art of Tranquility and Turbulence*, published by the University of Washington Press, with essay from Demakova, Karlstrom, and art historian Peter Selz.

A full-color, 36-page catalogue with an essay by New York-based writer-curator-poet John Yau will be published by the Peter Mendenhall Gallery for the exhibition.

An opening reception at the gallery for the artist will take place on Saturday, November 15, from 6 to 8 pm. For further information please contact Peter Mendenhall at (323) 936-0061.