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DOVE BRADSHAW

Guilty Marks

Guilty Marks is the title of the show for both bodies of work as well as of the series of paintings. They began in 2008, then were re-engaged in after a ten-year hiatus. The title came from the fact that they are not a hundred per cent chance in regard to the initial placement or choice of action—throws, pours and drops, for instance, and of materials such as inks, the chemical liver of sulfur, oils, leaf and raw pigment. Chance comes into play when the composition, textures and color all change while drying with the works placed flat—i.e. as the size (a slow drying varnish) off gasses it slips off the linen thereby relaying the inks and chemicals in unpredictable islands and tributaries.

The Spent Bullets came out of a late 70s Utopian gesture to repurpose deadly weapons—in this case .38 caliber New York Police Department shot slugs that were cast in silver and made into earrings. Better to wear them on the outside. The current show includes 3D enlargements of thirty times printed in resin and car painted Mercedes Chartreuse 2018, Toyota Blue 2004, BMW Sakhir Orange 2018 to further abstract from their deadly purpose. Others made a couple of years earlier affected metallic surfaces in white and lemon gold leaf, bronze plating, aluminum paint and rubber-coated as in the case of Riot Control bullets.

From 1999 Self Interest, European version, consists of nineteen elements of the body isolated in Pyrex flasks, etched with the name of each in proportion by weight based on a hundred pound person: oxygen, carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, calcium, phosphorous, potassium, sulfur, sodium, chlorine, magnesium, iron, iodine, zinc, manganese, silicon, copper, cobalt and fluorine. The flasks were filled in Copenhagen in a chemistry laboratory and shown at Stalke Gallery in 2001; the glass topped table supported by steel sawhorses was designed by me as well.

A pair of silver gelatin prints of the body elements are listed in descending order by weight on a man and a woman in both Russian and English. In English oxygen is represented by the letter "O" circling the woman's neck, and "K" in Russian. Opposites were sought in the pairing of both images—male/female, husband/wife, Russian /English, East/West, front/back, image/text. The models are artists, Evelina Domnitch and Dmitry Gelfand who are married and collaborate on their science based work. Domnitch sat for the image in 2002 while Gelfand sat in 2005.