

• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE •

Cole Sternberg

all his strength was concentrated in his fists, including the very strength that held him upright

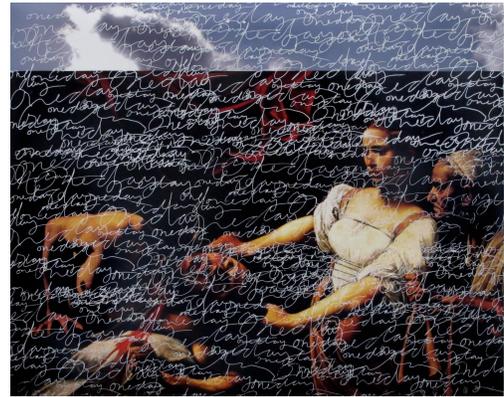
February 22 – March 23, 2013

Opening Reception: Friday, February 22, 7 - 9 pm

Free and open to the public. / Artist in Attendance.

David B. Smith Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of new works by artist Cole Sternberg. Titled after a line from Franz Kafka's unfinished work, *Amerika*, the exhibition will comprise two site-specific installations: in the main gallery a dizzying blend of a massive three-wall mural, over-painted photographs, collage, and mixed media on wood panels; in the Project Space, a dark, dolorous projection-based companion to the frenetic color of the main space.

Approaching *Amerika* as a point of departure, Sternberg explores persistent and troubling social issues Kafka presents in *Amerika*, such as stratified social hierarchies, widespread discrimination, blind worship of capitalism, and the destruction of the environment.



Cole Sternberg, *whereupon a little light came in*, 2013, silkscreen on archival inkjet photograph, 16 in x 20 in (41 cm x 51 cm)

Sternberg states:

Kafka never came to America, but there are themes throughout the book that really resonated with my view of our situation in this country today. I have tried to address these issues through the lens of Kafka and relate them to my experiences personally and, from a more macro perspective, to the United States and the world as a whole.

Featuring titles that act as free-form poetry, this exhibition questions the aesthetic connections that link us to the problems of our world. And through the contents of this exhibition—scribbled, obsessive mantras; impassioned and gestural mark-making; diabolical and seductive luxury branding; obscured glimpses of sky—Sternberg addresses visual dark corners and brief moments of light, and ultimately seems to argue for the imminence of the end of days.

Please join us for a reception with Cole Sternberg celebrating this provocative and thoughtful exhibition; to be held at the gallery on Friday, February 22, from 7 - 9 pm. On the occasion of the exhibition, David B. Smith Gallery will release a full-color catalogue in early March. Please visit our website for more information about this exhibition and the accompanying catalogue.

About the Artist

Born in Richmond, Virginia and raised in Saratoga, California, Sternberg earned his BA from Villanova University, and his JD at the Washington College of Law at American University. He uses his legal background extensively in his work, combining a socio-political point of view with a strong aesthetic. Sternberg has exhibited both nationally and internationally, including a solo show at The American University Museum in Washington, DC. His works can be found in major collections and publications throughout the world.

About David B. Smith Gallery

David B. Smith Gallery is Denver's venue for compelling contemporary art. Since its founding in 2007, the gallery has been committed to presenting intelligent and culturally relevant exhibitions featuring work from some of today's most dynamic artists with growing international reputations. Through extensive media coverage and participation in leading art fairs, David Smith has cultivated a strong regional, national and international collector audience. *The New York Times* hailed the gallery as offering, "an exciting contrast of cutting edge works." In addition to its curatorial program, David B. Smith maintains an active publishing division, which produces limited edition artist prints and monographs.