

STUDIOTWENTYSIX2

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CINCINNATI – Tom Davie today announced that his portrait paintings, “The Parishioner Series”, will be exhibited at the Northern Kentucky University Art Gallery beginning January 12, 2006. This is the artist’s largest exhibition to date in the Tri-state region. Davie earned his master of fine art from the renowned School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where he studied as a merit scholar.

Influenced by the work of Chuck Close, Andy Warhol and Francis Bacon, Davie’s “The Parishioner Series” is based on source imagery taken from a 1974 church directory. Each portrait is graphic in style and is composed of a complex dot-pattern, which is meticulously hand-painted onto canvas, and often layered with biblical passages, multiple transparent washes and areas of dense opaqueness.

“The parishioners are members of the small religious community to which I belonged as a child and young adult, and the 1974 church directory was chosen because it represents the year I was born into this group,” he explained. “I have a great deal of respect for this community founded in religion, however, my personal struggles with faith, religious power and mortality prevent me from fully embracing the ideals of my youth.”

Throughout his work, Davie has become increasingly interested in layering the imagery. “As the concept behind my work has become more focused, the layering and complexity have gradually increased. The beliefs and questions I have chosen for my subject, provide me no simple answers, however, the work offers an outlet for the complexity of my struggles.”

“The Parishioner Series” will be displayed in the Third Floor Gallery of the Fine Arts Center from January 12, 2006, through February 3, 2006. The opening reception will be held on January 12, 2006, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Davie’s work has been included in national and regional exhibitions in New York, Chicago, Seattle, Cincinnati, and Louisville, KY, including exhibitions juried by Matt Distel, associate curator of exhibitions, Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati, and Julie Rodrigues Widholm, assistant curator of art, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. His work has also been displayed at the Palace of Culture in Sofia, Bulgaria. Davie’s design work has appeared in such magazines as Communication Arts, How and Step-by-Step.

Currently an assistant professor of art at Northern Kentucky University, Davie received his master of fine art from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; he earned his bachelor of fine art from the University of Dayton. Davie is principal of studiotwenty-six2, an independently run, multi-disciplined design and fine art studio based in Cincinnati. He has formerly worked at several graphic design firms, including Morris Creative, San Diego, and Visual Marketing Associates, Dayton, Ohio.