

Deborah Colton Gallery

2500 Summer St., Third Floor

Houston, TX 77008

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JONMARC EDWARDS / VIRTUAL URGE

SHOW DATES 6.4.05 – 7.2.05 OPENING RECEPTION: 6.4.05, 6:30 – 9 pm

Gallery Hours: 11am – 6pm Tuesday – Saturday

PRESS RELEASE

The Deborah Colton Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of new paintings and sculpture by the Los Angeles based artist JonMarc Edwards. Edwards' is a recipient of numerous grants and awards, including the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation, Bush Foundation Artist Fellowship and the Jerome Foundation. His work has been the subject of individual exhibitions here in the USA and abroad, including most recently, "Spirits", organized by Art Affairs Gallery, Amsterdam, the Netherlands and "Self Contained Paintings" at the Carl Berg Gallery, Los Angeles. In 2004 he was also commissioned by Neiman-Marcus to do a mural sized work in honor of the late Philanthropist Stanley Marcus.

Influenced by Asian cultures and writing systems Edwards' work utilizes an algorithmic system that compresses, composes and transfers text into visual and legible content. An act of re-thinking essential words into images, creating patterns that both echo the content of the text while at the same time challenging the viewer to rethink their own understanding of the multiple ways we have of knowing and communicating.

For the exhibition, '**Virtual Urge**' JonMarc continues to explore his interest in the expedient nature of technology in relation to the contrary world of human emotions. In one of his larger multi-panel paintings Edwards' focuses on the emotive binary code of "**Yes-No**" constructing conflict between the cerebral patterning of the characters and the tactile manipulation of the material. The result is a quiet chaos between Ego and Zen. Further emphasizing the relationship between technology's efficiency and the urge to disrupt it are Edwards' transparent storage boxes. Scattered throughout the gallery like three dimensional files on a computer screen, the storage boxes' compress, contain and reflect the eclectic and unruly nature of the emotions, information and impulses that drive the artist to create.