

CYNTHIA-REEVES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DANIEL KOHN'S "LOOKING SOUTH" ACQUIRED BY THE 9/11 MEMORIAL MUSEUM



Image courtesy of Fiduciary Trust and the September 11 Memorial & Museum

(New York, New York) The National September 11 Memorial & Museum (9/11 Memorial Museum) at the World Trade Center in New York City has acquired for their permanent collection a seminal work by Brooklyn-based artist, Daniel Kohn. His painting installation, *Looking South* (2003), is a monumental four-panel work originally commissioned by Fiduciary Trust Company International to serve as a memorial to the firm's 9/11 experience. The painting, which Fiduciary Trust bequeathed to the museum, went on view in early August. The Museum is open daily 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.; for more information, visit: www.911memorial.org.

Daniel Kohn (b. 1964), a figurative painter whose early career in Europe as a painter was largely inspired by scenes of a family house in the center of France, came to know the Trade Towers from a unique approach: shortly after his move to Brooklyn, Kohn visited the renowned *Windows on the World* on the 100th floor of the World Trade Center: "I looked out over the Brooklyn skyline, and felt I could see the curve of the earth. I wondered what it would be like to work on my over-sized still-lives while looking at this curved horizon."



Daniel Kohn, *Seen From Above: Towards New Jersey*, (2002), as installed at Grand Central Terminal, NY

World Views, a residency program launched in 1997 by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and the Port Authority, offered studio spaces in the Trade Towers to over 140 artists during the program's tenure. Kohn was among them, and he painted there for six months in the winter of 1998-99 on the 100th Floor of the North Tower. From this unique vantage point, he started a series of paintings that captured the stunning views over Brooklyn. In the subsequent three years he developed this work into the series "Fragile Horizons" which explored the physical sensations of looking over the city from within the towers.

After the September 11th attacks, Kohn met New York Metropolitan Transit Authority's Art for Transit program Director, Sandra Bloodworth, and was commissioned to create an environment for reflection on the events of 9/11 in Vanderbilt Hall at Grand Central Station.

Kohn painted two 35 feet high multi-canvas paintings: *Seen From Above: Towards Brooklyn* and *Towards New Jersey*. These huge panneaux captured the breathtaking and awe-inspiring

views now lost to the city. A very personal and emotive piece for the artist, Kohn managed to find a way of communicating the physical sensation of being in the Towers and transforming this into a place for all New Yorkers to come and reflect on what had happened to them and their city. Installed at opposite ends of the vast Vanderbilt Hall, the paintings' clear washes of color and softened contours of the skyline created an immersive environment -- one of reflection, of memorialization, and of hope. *Looking South*, the last of the series of paintings Kohn realized on this theme, was commissioned by Fiduciary Trust Company International in 2003 and hung in the firm's post 9/11 headquarters for 12 years before being donated to the 9/11 Museum earlier this year. The installation, comprised of four panels, each 10 x 10 1/2 feet, is installed vertically, recapturing the feel of that seminal view over the New York harbor.

Kohn felt a personal connection with the Towers – it was his creative home for a period of time when he was just becoming familiar with the rhythms and spatial concerns of the urban-scape; he found an extraordinary perch from which to learn the contours of the entire city and beyond.

Following his residency at the Trade Towers, Daniel Kohn was the Founding Artist in Residence at the Broad Institute for Genomic Research. He came to the Broad at the invitation of Chief Scientific Officer, Todd Golub, where the two began a dialogue on the convergence of art and science that has lasted nearly a decade. As a result, Kohn's abstracted landscapes began a new visual vocabulary, mapping out ideas in genomics through sequences of shapes and patterns that hint of visual metaphors. In 2013, he completed *Instance of a Dataset*, his most ambitious commission since *Seen from Above*, a seven-floor permanent commission for the Broad's 7 Cambridge Center building at its headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts. In 2013 and 2014,



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Daniel Kohn was Artist in Residence at the Center for Epigenomics at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, NY. He is now Art/Science Research Director at Ligo Project, a new organization dedicated to enabling research across Art and Science, and pursues his artistic research in Brooklyn where he has his studio.

CYNTHIA-REEVES

CYNTHIA-REEVES represents an international roster of established artists who share a process-apparent sensibility in their art. We are committed to artwork that demonstrates an authentic voice, an innovative use of materials and an appreciation of the mark in diverse media. A sub-text to the gallery's program is artwork that provokes around the convergence of art and science, as well as our relationship to the natural world – a discourse essential to the examination of contemporary art and culture within the context of these broader challenges.

CYNTHIA-REEVES has galleries on the campus of MASS MoCA in the Berkshires, and in Walpole, New Hampshire, with additional staff offices in New York, Boston, and the Bay Area in California. For more information on these artists, please visit the online gallery at CYNTHIA-REEVES.COM or call 212 714 0044.

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