Dana Clancy: Intimate Distance

Clancy, Dana
Boston University

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Photo credits: Peter Harris

LIST OF PAINTINGS

COVER:
Camouflage (detail)
52" x 48"
oil on canvas on panel, 2005

INSIDE OPENING PANEL:
Capture
18" x 20"
oil on canvas on panel, 2005

Hot Spot
18" x 20"
oil on canvas on panel, 2005

INSIDE LEFT PANEL:
Futures
22" x 24"
oil on canvas on panel, 2004

INSIDE RIGHT PANEL:
Somewhere Between
22" x 24"
oil on canvas on panel, 2005

BACK PANEL:
This Memory of Water (detail)
52" x 48"
oil on canvas on panel, 2005

Exhibitions Coordinator:
Lynne Cooney
INTIMATE DISTANCE: WORKS BY DANA CLANCY

Dana Clancy's recent work takes as its subject the act of looking. The process of painting and drawing inherently implicates the viewer as its active participant, enabling the viewer to experience a sense of being observed, even scrutinized. Her portraits, which often feature individuals who are wearing a hat or affecting an exaggerated facial expression, are designed to trigger the sensation of being watched. Through the lens of her binoculars, the viewer becomes the artist's muse, engaging with the subject in a dynamic exchange of gazes. Clancy's rich, complicated palette and painterly brushwork create alluring surfaces, inviting the viewer to engage with the painting's various elements and layers. Each work is a skillful and intricate hybrid of graphic modeling, decorative forms, and chromatic intensity, transforming the literal, documentary vision of the photographic source into a painterly, conceptual experience. Dana Clancy's rich, complicated palette and painterly brushstroke generate alluring surfaces, and it is easy to enjoy her work purely for its technical mastery. Her blend of graphic modeling, decorative forms, and chromatic intensity offers a fresh perspective on the subject of the landscape, viewers of people, and views of the world of art. Embedding within her paintings both the act of observation and its subject matter, as well as the evolving role of the gaze in the landscape around us, Clancy explores the various interactions of the modern-day flâneur in order to consider how we interact visually with the people and landscape around us.