## **UPCOMING SHOW**

Up to 12 works on show August 2 – 31, 2007 Sue Greenwood Fine Art 330 N. Coast Highway Laguna Beach, CA 92651 (949) 494-0669

## SCOTT YESKEL

## A fresh new take on the California landscape

Scott Yeskel pushes the ideas of light, motion and atmosphere in his new urban cityscapes that take in a wide range of aesthetic and conceptual issues dealing with life in contemporary Los Angeles.

"Of course, there are lots of freeways here and it's interesting to see how that translates into the human experience," says Yeskel. "It's like all these ants traveling, these boxes moving back and forth and I just want to take a step back and just sort of stare at all of this going on. And when you step back and look at it and take the time to understand everybody's effort of getting somewhere, you see this all in a

whole different light."

These new paintings do not ignore the political implications of these scenes either, and Yeskel sees this as being a very crucial part of the work.

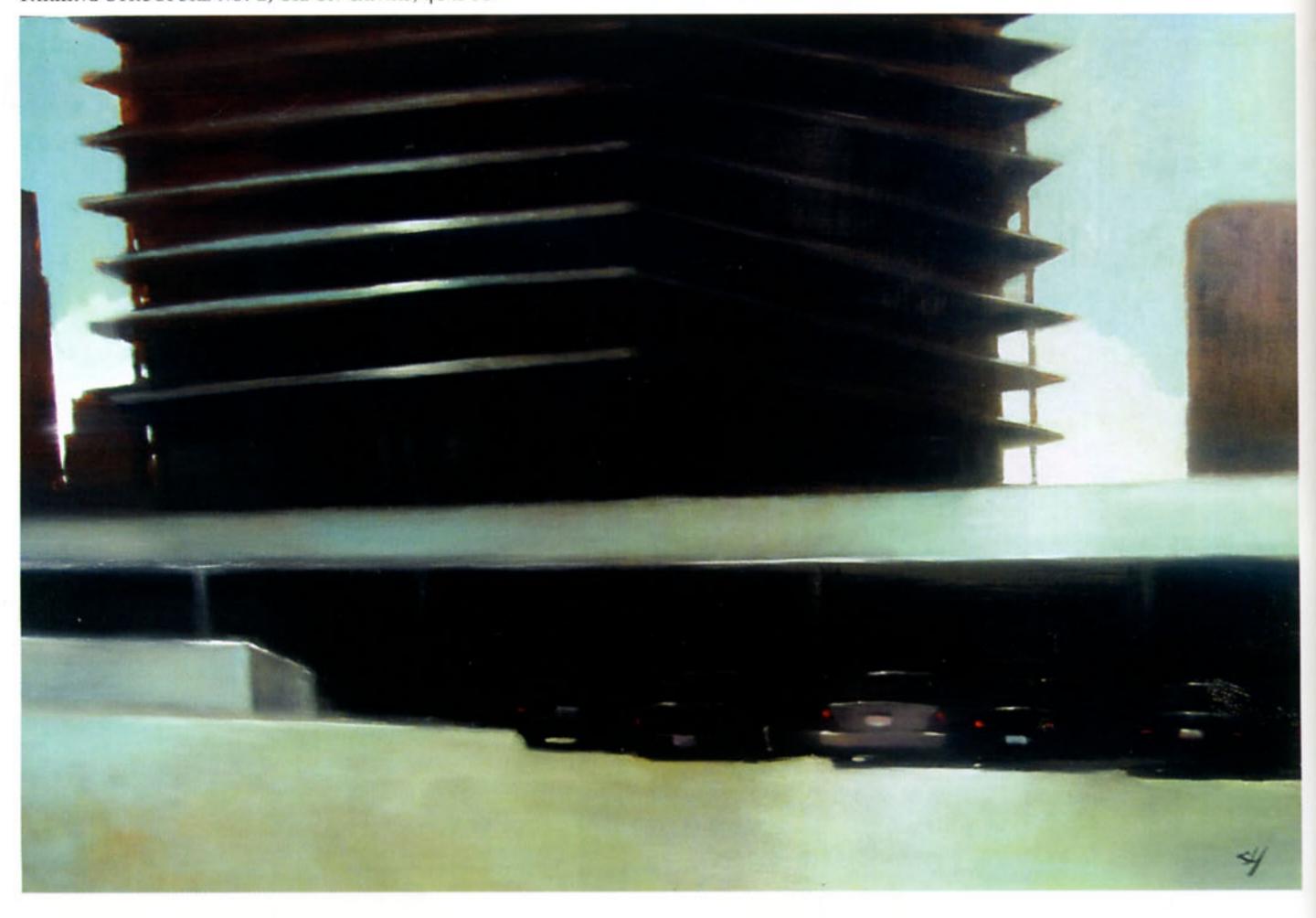
"They are definitely political and I'm very concerned with urban sprawl and the mass transit in Los Angeles as well as that idea of man versus automobile," says Yeskel. "I'm always interested in city development and city planning and Los Angeles is really just a cluster of amazingly good and some really bad development and I want to comment on that."

Paintings like *Parking Lot* also show Yeskel's keen understanding of painterly

techniques like dealing with light and shadow and using these contrasts to create mood and emotion.

"I have found that the realistic works are getting progressively moody and focused more aesthetically on contrast," says Yeskel. "What I am trying to do right now is keeping the organic stuff in the paintings light while man-made stuff, like cars and buildings, are dark. And with this, I want to bend the traditional rules of lighting. Compared to straightforward cityscapes where you are working with atmospheric perspective, in these paintings I am pushing the idea of light, time of day, motion and atmosphere."

PARKING STRUCTURE NO. 2, OIL ON CANVAS, 40 X 60"





PARKING STRUCTURE NO. 1, OIL ON CANVAS, 40 X 60"

Yeskel would like collectors to not just grow to understand his take on the California landscape, but see his work as bringing a unique voice to the long painting tradition working within this genre.

"I want them to see someone who is young and has sort of a fresh, new take on the California landscape," says Yeskel. "I want to present a distinct voice working within the context of the genre and I feel that people generally appreciate the point of view I offer and the chance to look at something in a fresh, new way."

Yeskel's work is also informed by his upbringing in Orange County where he saw first hand many of the ideas and scenes he discusses in these paintings.

"Moving to a small town in south Orange County and seeing that sprawl going on was definitely important to me and so was living in San Francisco while going to college and understanding what life is like in a city," says Yeskel. "I'm also a big fan of mid-century painters as well as the design and architecture of that time period and that is very influential to this work as well."

Yeskel also believes that each of his paintings can not be considered entirely

finished until it is seen and understood by the viewers.

"It's a fun relationship, really," says Yeskel. "I heard somewhere that the final stage of a painting is having people see it. It's a very important step that a lot of artists don't take into consideration. Once I've done a painting, the final exercise is having people look at it. I feel it is very important to show the work, have people see the work and comment on the work. It's rewarding and it's also part of the whole process." .

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to www.americanartcollector.com



Medium Small Large 2001 \$100 n/a n/a \$4,500-5,500 \$7,500-\$8,500 2007 \$1,200

## The Gallery Says . . .

"Scott Yeskel's work focuses on abstract and representational cityscapes using alarming color transcended by a mood of quiet disconnection. This juxtaposition leaves the work diverse on many levels. Yeskel's abstracts, layered in thick strokes of oil, speak of incorporeal places that harken back a mood or feeling from particular environments he has been. The representational work, on the other hand, leaves an impression of a snap shot gone by."

> - Sue Greenwood, Owner, Sue Greenwood Fine Art