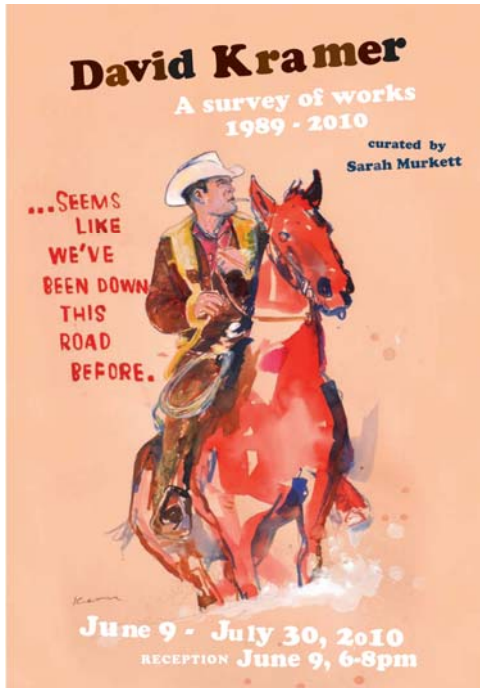




ARMAND BARTOS FINE ART

25 East 73rd Street New York NY 10021 PHONE 212.288.6705



David Kramer: Seems Like We've Been Down This Road Before

Curated by Sarah Murkett

June 9 – July 30, 2010

Opening reception: Wednesday, June 9, 6-8PM

For Immediate Release – May 24, 2010

Armand Bartos Fine Art is pleased to present its first solo artist exhibition, and David Kramer's debut with the gallery. This show was inspired by a project archiving Kramer's productive twenty-year career of art making. His practice began in the time-honored traditions of painting and sculpture, expanded to include the live performance of concrete poems, which further evolved into the text-based drawings that he is best known for. Kramer rounds out his art production as director, set designer and star of a number of videos, which has lead to the creation of elaborate gallery installations. This introductory survey reaches as far back as 1989 and presents a selection of work that highlights the radical, multi-disciplinary nature of Kramer's creative process.

Using his own life as source material for his art, Kramer is the consummate storyteller. But like a movie star who we recognize from the roles that they play, and the stories we read in the tabloids, there is a disconnection between the man himself and the stage persona he has created. The character presented in his artwork is both an idealized and vilified version of himself, with the truth often stretched in service of the story.

Kramer's experiences become the universal struggle of the everyman for greatness. He gets up and goes to work every day. He is married with a son. He struggles to make ends meet. And he often takes comfort at the end of the day in a bottle. The imagery in his work is culled from 1970s print advertising. Hot girls and big cars are symbols of having arrived. Cowboys are metaphors for the lonely and hardscrabble life of the artist. Modernist architecture creates space for better living. Cigarettes are eternally cool and represent an irrational love for things that may destroy us. Re-inscribing romanticized and highly stylized versions of the American Dream, Kramer explores our desire for halcyon days and the hangover of disappointment with a razor sharp wit.

Armand Bartos Fine Art will be hosting a press preview brunch on the morning of Tuesday, June 8th at 11am. Please RSVP by Monday, June 7th.

For images or more information please contact Gabriella Desposito, gabriella@armandbartos.com, 212-288-6705.