

PRESS INFORMATIONFOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Markus Baenziger:
Recent Sculpture and Watercolors
October 28th through December 3rd, 2005

The Edward Thorp Gallery will present an exhibit of new sculptures and watercolors by Markus Baenziger.

Markus Baenziger's work makes permanent often fragile or transitory elements in nature. In his sculptures trees, branches and petals are disembodied and presented as frozen icons and used as metaphors for our aspirations and needs, such as comfort, longing and fulfillment. His works are at once familiar and strange, delicate and imposing. The sculpture, "Spring" for example, depicts a white young tree balanced on its exposed roots above its nourishing foundation, the earth. In another, a large daisy-like form hugging the floor radiates petals of increasing size and seems to celebrate nature's miraculous expansiveness.

In previous works, Markus Baenziger has represented a product's impact on nature, such as the splash created by an SUV, as symbolic of the unattainable perfect moment. In his most recent works, nature is the catalyst that transforms the references to popular culture into a personal experience. A large watercolor depicting winning lotto numbers from years gone by sparkles like a mirage, as if induced by nature. In another, branches grow to form a perfectly round portal to the sky. In Baenziger's vision, leaves, numbers and gambling logos are executed in minute detail. Through this spectacle the boundaries between nature and culture blur hypnotically.

Impossibly fragile and detailed, these technically ambitious works transcend their materiality in both subject and substance.

This will be Markus Baenziger's first solo exhibition with the Edward Thorp Gallery.

Gallery hours are from 11am to 6pm Tuesday through Saturday. For more information please call (212) 691-6565 or email mail@edwardthorpgallery.com