

Kristen Van Deventer – The Munich Baby House

June 29 – August 17, 2013

David Petersen Gallery is pleased to announce a solo exhibition of new painting by Los Angeles-based artist Kristen Van Deventer.

There once was a great house in Bavaria where an avid collector, Albrecht V, lived and amassed thousands of objects - paintings, drawings, prints, sculptures, coins, manuscripts, and an elephant stuffed with hay. A detailed inventory of the collection, including a description of the Duke's residence, was taken in 1598 filling several handwritten volumes. The writing is said to move freely, dictated in motion, as it was seen penned up, down, left and right. It is also said that an elaborate replica miniature house, known to be the first of its kind, was produced for the Duke and is often referred to as the Munich Baby House. The Duke's collection no longer exists. The contents were stolen, destroyed during war, or burned in a great fire along with the Munich Baby House. The descriptions remain and are housed in the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in Munich.

This exhibition will be the first by Kristen Van Deventer at David Petersen Gallery and will include a series of paintings that vary in scale, medium and application. The trajectory of her work often seems at odds, not only growing from, but evolving away from the previous encounter. Though each canvas retains a distinct singularity in its making, their proximity and relationship to each other describes one large growing body.

Kristen Van Deventer lives and works in Los Angeles and is a recent MFA graduate of the University of Southern California. In 2012 she had a solo exhibition at Michael Jon Gallery in Miami and participated in group exhibitions at The Poor Farm in Wisconsin and Control Room in Los Angeles. Her poetry will be included in a forthcoming exhibition catalogue highlighting the photographs of Melanie Schiff.