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Darren Wardle: New Paintings

*Opening reception: Thursday, September 14, 6-8 PM
September 14 – October 14, 2006*

Stux Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition of new paintings by Australian painter Darren Wardle. Wardle's new paintings explore the extended possibilities of the painting process, resulting in seamless, nearly cinematic urban landscapes.

Continually exploring new “spaces” such as those produced by the aftereffects of industry’s impact on the landscape, Wardle attempts to realize the “unreal” in his quest to capture manmade urban abstractions. Invoking the now iconic architectural phenomenon of the suburban office-scape, the artist, who cites Ridley Scott’s 1980’s classic cult film *Bladerunner* as a major influence, renders a seemingly post-apocalyptic view of his subjects.

Wardle’s painting process is multifaceted, and begins with photography. Combining original photographic prints, transparencies and projections, he ultimately utilizes digital technology to create sublime layered synthetic topographies. The resulting works are made, without exception, by hand, in oils with a brush, and do not employ the use of airbrushing or other elaborate painting devices.

Through an amalgam of similar architectural elements (futuristic swimming pools, parking lots and office buildings) Wardle highlights the temporal nature of architecture. The paintings are sparse, creating an eerily familiar sense of place, a sort of architectural Déjà Vu, with landscapes free from the constraints of geographic distance and urban planning.

Darren Wardle has exhibited in major galleries around the world with exhibitions at Nellie Castan Gallery, Australia, Artists Space, New York, Stefan Stux Gallery, New York, Galerie Treppenhaus, Berlin, LaTrobe Street Gallery, Australia, McClelland Regional Gallery, Australia, Maroondah Art Gallery, Australia.

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For further information please contact the gallery at Joshua@stuxgallery.com