

Press Release

Omar Ba

« *Fiction ou réalité* »

February 8th to March 18th 2011

Opening 8th of February at 6pm in presence of the artist

Following the success of his first exhibition at the Project Room, Omar Ba, a young Senegalese artist living in Geneva, comes back to the Guy Bärtschi Gallery, 43 route des Jeunes, where he will install his work from the 8th of February to the 18th of March 2011.

Under the banner of *Fiction or Reality*, he will present a collection of recent works through which he pursues the work of elucidating the contemporary world by a process of cohabitation between the realms of fiction and reality.

The paintings which are produced on corrugated cardboard, the artists preferred surface, are a hybridization between Africa and the West. This singular art form responds to his desire to approach reality in a non-realist way in order to ask the questions that preoccupy him with a keen acuity: modernization and its impact on society and the natural world.

The density of the material, the power of the colors, the play between black and white, and freedom of execution confer to these representations a distinctive density that demands the observer's attention.

Within the critical distance established by the fiction of painting, reality becomes ambiguous. The association of motifs and elements, that reflects Africa as much as the West, create an intriguing space that questions our accustomed ways of seeing.

By the fiction of his painting, Omar Ba explodes stereotypes and thus unmask the complex reality of our Contemporary world.