

**Winston Wächter Fine Art**  
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## Group Exhibition

### *Exquisite Allegory*

January 12 – February 21, 2011

Opening Reception with Artists: Wednesday, January 12, 6 – 8 pm

Winston Wächter Fine Art is pleased to present *Exquisite Allegory*, a group exhibition with artists Tatiana Garmendia, Stephen O'Donnell, and Piper O'Neill. Please join us for the opening reception with the artist on **Wednesday, January 12 from 6-8 pm.**

Allegorical narratives have a strong place in art of all eras as artists seek to present “truths” of human nature. Multiple eras are represented in this whimsical figurative exhibition, speaking to vices and virtues of all generations. While the artists approach allegory from different directions, there is a common thread of storytelling, which provides insightful commentaries relevant to contemporary life. These visual narratives suggest a combination of foreboding, sorrow, and satire.

Tatiana Garmendia's “Last Judgment,” which references Michelangelo's “The Last Judgment,” portrays the heartbreak of war as seen through the eyes of United States veterans. In her work, the veterans are the heroes, the damned, the strong, and the suffering. Garmendia's work suggests that a soldier's role in armed conflict is neither right, nor wrong, but somewhere tortured in the middle.

Piper O'Neill's mixed media paintings are sensitive narratives of characters absorbed in their inherited histories, as seen through the lens of Victorian era traditions. A Victorian primer inspired a number of the paintings, where girls are presented performing every day tasks, while sinister undercurrents persist. In her work, we see that each person carries with them experiences and elements of past generations, present in their lives, but often unconsciously. These inherited, acquired experiences tell a truth about who we are as individuals and in turn, as a society.

Stephen O'Donnell is a self-taught artist whose historical portraits portray the indulgent follies of royalty - always with O'Donnell as the main subject. His characters exist in staged environments where vanity, cruelty, and excess are woven throughout his tableaux. O'Donnell's world of decadence and grandeur reveal that hubris and narcissism do not relieve the struggles of life, but only entangle one further.

top: Tatiana Garmendia, “Last Judgment V.2”, Ink on paper, 44” x 30”.

center: Piper O'Neill, “Forbidden Fruit”, mixed media on wedding dress pattern tissue, 45” x 90”.

bottom: Stephen O'Donnell, “Les Deux”, acrylic on panel, 24” x 18”.

