

## Jackie Gendel: Portraits

### **Press Release for Jackie Gendel: Portraits**

Jeff Bailey Gallery is pleased to present Jackie Gendel: Portraits.

Gendel makes conceptualized portraits that fuse historical figures with friends and found images. Each painting explores the process of digging out the human form from other portraits, while simultaneously mining abstraction. Fluid identities are created and question the disconnect between our views of each other and ourselves. Like time-lapse mirrors, Gendel layers loose image upon loose image, in a method that spawns ever-shifting identities. This accumulation creates psychological states that waver between quiet and stormy, pensive and brash, echoing a battle between ego and disappearance.

The paintings evoke the passage of time, both in building the figures and quoting past styles. *Rot*, featuring a young woman in profile, evokes an old master painting, dirty and decayed. In a case of changing identities, what began as a painting of Andrew Jackson, morphs into a woman (*Ms. A. W. Jackson*). Men and women, alone or merged, seem caught in a shifting pictorial space. Ghosts of portraits and other artists haunt Gendel's paintings. As William Faulkner once said, "The past isn't dead. In fact, it's not even past".

This is Jackie Gendel's first exhibition with the gallery. She has had solo exhibitions at Jessica Murrery Projects in Brooklyn and Mixture Contemporary in Houston. Gendel has been an artist in residence at the Macdowell Colony and The Atlantic Center for the Arts. She received her MFA from Yale University. She lives and works in New York.

For further information, please contact Jeff Bailey at 212.989.0156 or [info@baileygallery.com](mailto:info@baileygallery.com).