

Mel Rosas: *Perdido en el Tiempo/Lost in Time*

April 4 – April 30, 2011

Opening Reception: Thursday, April 7th, 5:30 – 7:30pm

Davidson Contemporary (724 Fifth Avenue, 4th Floor)

New York, March 15, 2011 – Davidson Contemporary is pleased to present Mel Rosas' *Perdido en el Tiempo/Lost in Time*. This exhibition, the artist's sixth solo show at Davidson Contemporary, features new paintings which further explore Rosas' interest in the symbols and otherworldly perspectives of Magic Realism and Post-Surrealism.

As a half-Panamanian and half-American, Rosas frequently struggled with his sense of identity as a child. Native to neither country, he spoke English and often dreamed in Spanish. Later in life, Rosas traveled to Latin America and found inspiration for his art in the culture and his own lingering memories and feelings about the region.

In Rosas' exquisitely rendered streetscapes, the light is stark, faces are often obscured, and walls appear pockmarked and faded. Doorways transform into thresholds to alternate dimensions, through which mystery both lurks and beckons. Inspiration for *Perdido en el Tiempo/Lost in Time* was drawn from the artist's recent trip to Cuba, a territory whose close proximity to the United States is nullified by a decades-long embargo. As an individual who has grappled with his own cultural identity and heritage, Rosas felt an immediate connection to Cuba, with its troubled history and strong cultural identity. Rosas found in the island nation a kindred feeling of isolation, which is poignantly expressed through the works included in this exhibition.

Founded in 2006, Davidson Contemporary is a division of Maxwell Davidson Gallery. Under the direction of Maxwell Davidson IV, Davidson Contemporary presents the work of both emerging and mid-career artists who work in a range of media, from sculpture and works on paper to new media. The gallery's program is presented at the Maxwell Davidson Gallery space on Fifth Avenue, with the same dedication to providing a professional and scholarly approach to art collecting.

Illustrated catalogue available.