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GREG GANDY & VALERIO D'OSPINA

Tempo and pause

Greg Gandy and Valerio D'Ospina build cities out of paint. Gandy's cities are deceptively photographic at first glance, but soon reveal a mastery of paint and perspective. D'Ospina's work is unmistakably made of paint that captures the materiality of the buildings and the enormous ships he portrays.

Gandy's Rain in the Tenderloin is composed from an unusually low perspective, as if the artist and the viewer were denizens of the soaking sidewalk. The confusing reflections on the pavement and the thin layer of mist as the rain bounces off it give way to Gandy's typically fine rendering of the complex facades of San Francisco buildings. Above them is a blindingly bright sky of richly scumbled paint. All of this happens within a 16-by-24-inch panel.

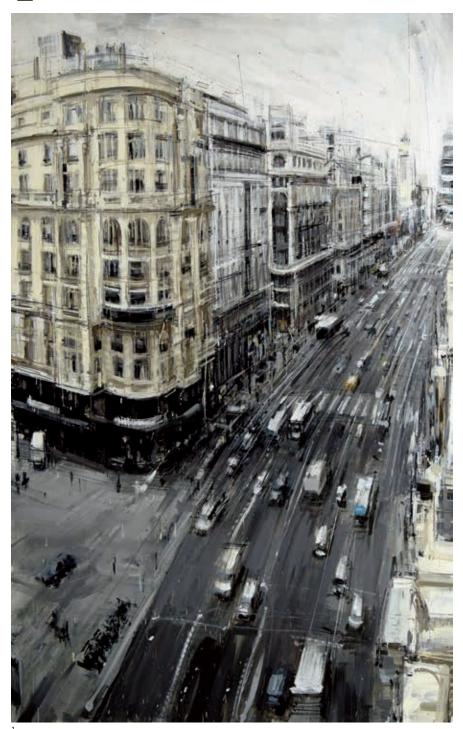
D'Ospina's La Gran Via, on the other hand, is a 48-by-30-inch panel of exuberant monochromatic painting of drips and streaks and washes. Just as the traffic rushes toward the viewer, the perspective of the line of buildings seems physically to rush away into the blur of the distance. It is as if Francis Bacon left his dark studio to take in the view from its roof.

Bacon, Lucian Freud, and Alberto Giacometti are among his favorite artists. Describing himself as an "abstract-realist" struggling to become more abstract, D'Ospina leaves enough visual information for the eye to complete a form, and not so much information that it can't revel in the paint and the surface of the painting. Shipyard looms threateningly as it dissolves into strokes of paint.

Born in Taranto, Italy, D'Ospina now lives and works in Philadelphia.

Gandy lives and works in San Francisco, a city of constantly changing weather, atmosphere and light, making it a constantly changing source of inspiration.

Both artists are showing in the exhibition Tempo & Pause at Principle Gallery in Alexandria, Virginia, April 17 through May 11.











Valerio D'Ospina, La Gran Via, oil on panel, 48 x 30"

2 Greg Gandy, *Rain in the Tenderloin*, oil on panel, 16 x 24"

3 Valerio D'Ospina, Shipyard, oil on panel, 48 x 48"

4 Greg Gandy, Looking East from Tank Hill, oil on panel, 9 x 12"