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**art**  
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GAVIN GLAKAS

# Exciting solitude



1



Cityscape artist Gavin Glakas connects 21<sup>st</sup>-century life to the generations that came before in his show at Principle Gallery, which will open with a reception on October 14 and run until November 8.

A gas station in his brother's neighborhood in Texas is the subject of his painting *Austin*. "I'm really interested in exciting solitude, not loneliness. The faster the area, the more intense the feeling of solitude," Glakas says of the painting. "The station was closed, nobody was driving, and it felt very modern and a tip of the hat to the '60s and '70s at the same time."

In *Night Falls on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave*, which depicts the bustle of a New York evening, he plays with that same connection to the past. "We're in a time that feels really modern, but you can feel the ghosts of the immigrants in the tenements along with neon signs and taxis, and you realize that there is very little emotionally that's new," Glakas says.

"Few artists are able to convey the atmosphere of an environment in paint as successfully as Gavin Glakas. When you view his works in person they seem to emanate light from panel. The light is captured so perfectly in some instances, it makes your eyes squint as to compensate for the brightness," says Principle Gallery's director Clint Mansell. "His ability to elicit these responses is a testament to his mastery of the medium."

In addition to the opening reception on October 14, Glakas will be doing a live landscape painting demonstration in the gallery on October 15, which will be a new experience for him. "When you paint portraits, it's natural to keep the model talking, but cityscapes are a much different zone, and I tap into deepest recess of my intuitive self-conscious and let it flow," he says. "It will be interesting to re-create it with an audience." ●

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1  
*Night Falls on 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Ave.*, oil on panel,  
24 x 36"

2  
*Lights in an Alley  
off 5<sup>th</sup> Street*, oil on  
panel, 16 x 16"

3  
*Austin*, oil on panel,  
24½ x 48½"

4  
*Rain on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.*, oil  
on panel, 18 x 18"

4