

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Regen Projects
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ELIZABETH PEYTON DRAWINGS

February 1 - March 1, 1997

Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 11 - 5

Opening reception: Saturday, February 1, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Regen Projects is pleased to announce an exhibition of new gouaches and drawings by New York based artist **Elizabeth Peyton**. Culling her portraits from the music, literary, and art worlds, **Peyton** embellishes her subjects in an idealized state: wondrously androgynous and angular, and in the gouaches, with the cherriest lips, the brightest yet unnaturally tinted eyes, and donning the latest pop fashions.

From her earliest works of characters painted on glass from Proust's Remembrance of Things Past, to depictions of Ludwig of Bavaria or Kurt Cobain, **Peyton's** hand has always demonstrated a sureness of touch and an adoration for her subject matter. **Peyton's** upcoming show includes drawings entitled "Liam," "Evan," "Craig," "Udamsak," "Beck," and "John and George." The convergence of actual friends mixed in with pop stars has, as **Peyton** says in a recent interview, "no separation for me between people I know through their music or photos and somebody I know personally. The way I perceive them is very similar, in that there's no difference between the certain qualities I find inspiring in them. Both give me something magical at the same level." (Francesco Bonami interview, Flash Art, March/April 1996)

Peyton appears to select her subjects through empathy, an appreciation for youth and beauty, and often a fascination with particularly complicated lives. Generally depicting male subjects, **Peyton** is most interested in her characters before they cross the line of adulthood, encapsulating and anointing them in that moment of expectation and innocence which accompanies wreckless and brilliant youth. In her drawings it's not the "John" (Lennon) as a grown man and before his death, but the incredibly young "John" when the Beatles first burst on the scene.

Peyton's work has been exhibited throughout the United States, Europe, and Brazil. A reception for **Elizabeth Peyton** will be held on Saturday, February 1st, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm

For further information please contact Shaun Caley or Stuart Regen at the gallery (310) 276-5424.