

GROOVEFUCKER

John Kissick

WILDE Gallery

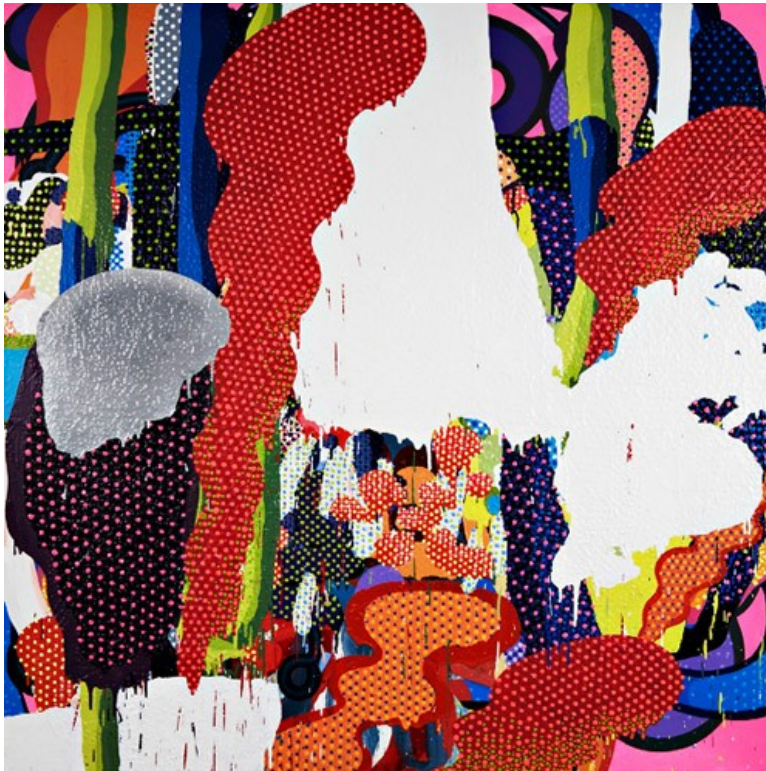
Chausseestrasse 7, 10115 Berlin, Germany

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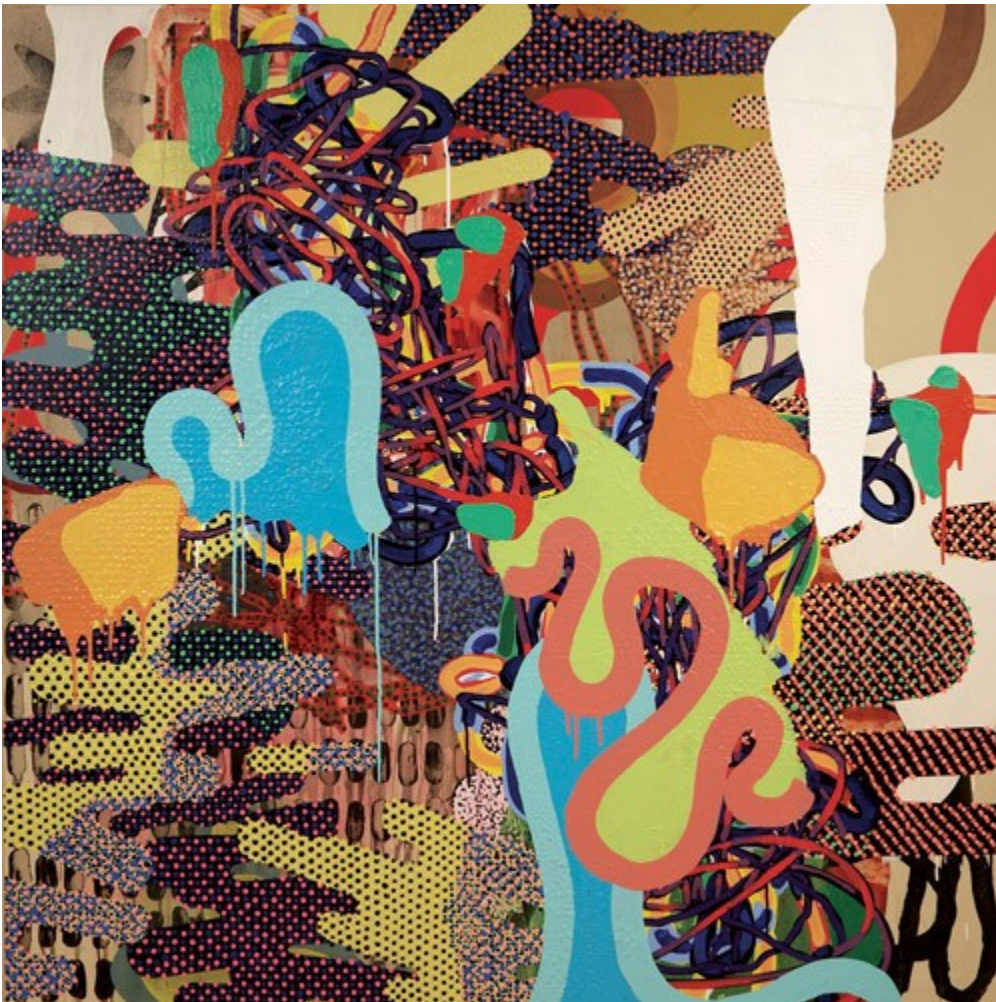
John Kissick's abstracted paintings derive inspiration from the musical genres that defined his early adulthood, specifically disco and punk.

Considering the attributes historically accredited to each movement, from disco's hyper-produced repetitive pop to punk's defiant DIY ethos and anti-establishment posturing, Kissick's paintings are self-contained contradictions, both formally and conceptually.



For Groovefucker, Kissick will present a new body of work that continues his stylized interpretation of these themes. Often reworking or "remixing" older canvases, Kissick has developed a signature aesthetic that vacillates between pop and expressionism, between glossy, sugar-coated order and rebellious, unpredictable chaos.

In direct response to his own conflicts with the tradition of abstract modernism, Kissick's visual language has marked its territory somewhere between idealism and cynicism, in an ironic search for the "authentic." In his "anti-manifesto manifesto", Kissick writes, "since authenticity is so pre-Twitter, I'm beginning to think that a good, honest fake, a heartfelt lie, or some good, honest introspective indifference might be a reasonable starting place for any serious commentary on the critical dynamics of abstract painting today. It is here that the disco of our collective contemporary discourse appears to trump our personal punk of individual expectation."



In addition to painting, Kissick is a prolific writer who has published essays in numerous academic volumes (ie Art: Context and Criticism, Brown and Benchmark Publishers, Madison, WI and John Calmann and

King Ltd., London). Kissick's work has been included in exhibitions at the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, the Shanghai Art Museum and the Guangdong Museum of Art, among others. The artist lives and works in Canada, where he is the Director of the School of Fine Art and Music at the University of Guelph.

(Images: **John Kissick**, *BIG VIOLENT GREEN*, 2010, Oil and acrylic on canvas, 84 x 78 inches; *LAST GROOVEFUCKER*, 2010 Oil and acrylic on canvas, 66 x 66 inches; *REMIX No. 3*, 2009, Oil and acrylic on canvas, 66 x 66 inches; Courtesy of the artist & WILDE Gallery)

Posted by [Abhilasha Singh](#) on 4/03