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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OLAV CHRISTOPHER
JENSSEN**
*Appendix:
Third Section of
The Empty Drawing Room*



12 September-28 October 2006

Tracy Williams, Ltd is pleased to present our second solo exhibition of new paintings and drawings by Olav Christopher Jenssen. Following his exhibition, *Translation*, from 2004 of large scale paintings, Jenssen will be presenting yet another facet of his work with a series of intimate paintings and a recent group of works on paper.

Norwegian born, Olav Christopher Jenssen, has been living in Berlin for over fifteen years. He is a professor of painting at Hochschule für Bildende Künste, Hamburg and has an extensive exhibition history throughout Europe including Documenta IX and most recently a solo exhibition at the Kunstmuseum Bonn in Germany. This most recent body of work was conceived in Lya, Sweden, where the artist spends his summers.

Jenssen's work engages an expressionist palette of secondary colors; curious and unconventional uses of fluorescent pinks, pallid tan-browns, piercing yellows, and deep forest greens. While his work regularly involves dense layers of paint worked onto the canvas, Jenssen will sometimes finish a piece with a single line gesture. He often begins with a simple shape, perhaps a color-filled oval in the top right hand corner of the canvas. At times that is enough, and the piece is complete, other times the painting calls for another shape. This adding on is what leads Jenssen to multiplying spheres, sunken webs, faded lines and cryptic letters—all hidden secrets of the picture plane. In part, these encoded canvases conceal references to an expansive history of abstract art.

Jenssen's work is at once a playful and intimate gesture of human experience. With intuitive sensitivity, he constructs layers upon layers depicting the space between language and the pictorial. Through this process of multi-layering, Jenssen has achieved a translucent depth of field, overlaying organic forms, smears, scratches and scribbles. As a rule, his works develop in series, focusing on specific formal constructs and geometric patterns. They are both spontaneous and tender, employing a kind of "automatic writing" style that retains its inherent lyricism.

Join us for the opening on Tuesday, the 12th of September from 6 to 8 p.m.