

EDWARD THORP GALLERY  
*Press Release*

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**NATASHA SWEETEN**  
**RECENT PAINTINGS**  
February 3<sup>rd</sup> through March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006

The Edward Thorp Gallery will present an exhibition of paintings by Natasha Sweeten. Sweeten's paintings are oil on wood panel and intimate in scale. The exhibition will consist of approximately 14 works.

Sweeten uses paint in a variety of ways: semi-transparent, opaque, gestural and flat. Over time, layers of interacting color and form are set into play through scraping and over-painting to create organic, architectural and biomorphic forms. The resulting paintings are individual, inventive and seductive. The addition of engaging titles enables us to enter Sweeten's baroque world.

"I see the imagination as a fundamental ingredient of life. Likewise, it plays a significant role in painting, as painting requires a swift, psychological shift to turn a thought or idea into physical matter. When I paint, I imagine the forms I use to possess distinct personalities, which in turn become my tools for working. With them I create a narrative for each piece, putting into play several methods of paint application and removal in order to set up unanticipated relationships. Although abstract, my work is rooted in the real world, inspired by forms in nature and architecture. Each painting is built---or evolves---element by element, and the end result cannot be preconceived. This to me is an exciting challenge." --Natasha Sweeten

This will be Natasha Sweeten's first major exhibition in New York City.

Gallery hours are from 11am to 6pm Tuesday through Saturday. For more information please call (212) 691-6565 or email [edwardthorpgallery@earthlink.net](mailto:edwardthorpgallery@earthlink.net).