

TOUCHSTONE GALLERY

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September 29 – October 31, 2010

"JUST FLAGS"

(that you've never seen before)

by **Charlie Dale**

Opening Reception:

Friday, October 1, 6 - 8:30 pm

Artist Talk:

Sunday, October 17, 2 pm

"JUST FLAGS" is anything but. In his first solo show at the new TOUCHSTONE Gallery at 901 New York Avenue, NW, Charlie Dale takes us on an imaginative journey, sometimes whimsical sometimes thought provoking, to countries and places yet to be discovered with flags that we have never seen before.

The country of "No Joy" is oppressive and ruled by dictators but so poor and distant that the rest of the world doesn't care. "Quant" is a place few know but where Einstein reportedly went for solitude to write the theory of relativity. "D1" was the first country to go all digital. Everyone in D1 is connected but nobody talks to anyone anymore – they just text. The paintings in this show go beyond the visual. Each has a story to tell – some serious, some just plain fun.

In a major artistic departure from the geometric abstraction of most flags we know, Dale returns to his abstract expressionist and action painting roots, using gesture and line to impart energy and depth to the contemporary and abstracted flag paintings in this exhibit. The fourteen flags in the show retain some of the familiar shapes, structure, symbols and colors that we expect to see in a flag but each one departs from the familiar in some important way.

Dale works out of a studio in Alexandria, Virginia. He is a member of the Art League of Alexandria and regularly exhibits at the Torpedo Factory in Old Town. He has been represented by Touchstone Gallery since January 2009.



For more information please contact Ksenia Grishkova, Director, at 202-347-2787 or e-mail info@touchstonegallery.com

Images: "CYBER", Acrylic on canvas, 24" x 36" and "D1", Acrylic and mixed media on canvas, 24" x 48" by Charlie Dale

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