REGEN PROJECTS

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WOLFGANG TILLMANS March 12 – April 9, 2011 Opening Reception: Saturday, March 12, 6 – 8 pm Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10 am – 6 pm

Regen Projects is pleased to announce an exhibition of new work by German artist **Wolfgang Tillmans**. For his sixth solo exhibition at the gallery, **Tillmans** will present compelling new pictures of his familiar territories (London, Berlin, and New York) intermixed with images from his recent world travels. As in his first exhibition at Regen Projects, the color prints and large inkjet prints will be unframed and taped or clipped to the wall in a primarily linear, non-hierarchical installation.

This will be the artist's first show at the gallery since 1995 of exclusively camera-based works. For two decades, **Tillmans** has pushed the limits of photography exploring the correlation between camera-less abstraction and figuration. With advancements in technology, the camera is now able to capture and convey information in a manner not previously possible when **Tillmans** began his practice. While the possibilities of digital imaging techniques are often put to use to cover up and create a fantasy version of reality, **Tillmans** searches for clarity through a double-sided investigation of simultaneous observation and utilization. On the one hand, the photographs of natural phenomena, such as the night sky picture taken from an aircraft over the Atlantic (*in flight astro II,* 2010) and a waterfall (*Iguazu,* 2010) with infinite frozen detail, were only realizable through the use of a digital camera. On the other hand pieces like *Times Square LED*, 2010 and *TGV*, 2010 featuring building size moving advertising displays and high-speed trains make new technological development their subject matter. Combining these poignant fragments of his experience of the world, **Tillmans** creates a crystallized view of our multisided reality, achieving what can be described as an updated version of modernity.

"The art of **Tillmans** is multi-allusive, in both the extent of the subject matter and his treatment of photography as medium. From astronomy to portraiture, to luxuriant yet minutely poised studies of light on photographic paper, he creates a cosmology of images, tirelessly refining – as artist, editor, installer and curator – the semiotic chemistry of their interrelationship to one another. In this, **Tillmans**, locates the visual equivalent of Proust's 'mot juste', identifying not simply the most eloquent images, in terms of colour, composition, mood, texture, light and emotional pulse, but those that appear to posses their own sentient meaning. For **Tillmans**, one feels, the potentiality of the photographic image is intimately related, at a profound level of empathetic understanding and philosophical awareness, to the messy but complicated business of being alive."

(Michael Bracewell. "Everywhere, all the time and at once: the art of **Wolfgang Tillmans**" in <u>Wolfgang Tillmans</u>, published by Serpentine Gallery, London and Koenig Books, London, 2010)

Born in Remscheid Germany, **Wolfgang Tillmans** was the winner of the Turner prize in 2000. **Tillmans** has been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions worldwide, including the Serpentine Gallery, London, UK; The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, IL; The Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA; Museo Tamayo, Mexico City, Mexico; the Hirshhorn Museum, Washington, DC; PS1 Contemporary Art Center/MoMA New York, NY; the Tate Britain, London, UK; Stedlijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands, and the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, UK. **Tillmans** was recently included in the 3rd Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia; the 53rd Venice Biennial in 2009, Venice, Italy; 'Holbein to **Tillmans**' at the Schaulager, Basel, Switzerland; and Life on Mars: Carnegie International 2008 at the Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA. In June, Hatje Cantz will release, for the first time in a single publication, a new monograph of the artist's abstract photographs titled <u>Abstract Pictures</u>. He lives and works in London and Berlin.

An opening reception will take place at the gallery on Saturday, March 12th from 6 – 8 pm. For further information please contact Jennifer Loh, Heather Harmon or Stacy Bengtson at 310-276-5424.

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