

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jason Middlebrook
Past, Present, Future
at Margo Leavin Gallery
8 January – 5 February 2005

Margo Leavin Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of recent work by Jason Middlebrook. This exhibition will feature new sculptural work and drawings and will be on view at the gallery from 8 January through 5 February.

Middlebrook's first solo exhibition at Margo Leavin Gallery will address urban sprawl, decay, religion, evolution, nature, and the rapidly changing landscape of the West. He continues to explore the notion of time and the battle between nature and man. Nature is constantly changing and blending the past into the future while at the same time, humans are trying to control time and our natural surroundings. Middlebrook depicts nature over man instead of man over nature in order to show the importance of change and the natural process.

He has chosen Los Angeles as his site of decay, taking the city and its various iconic forms and transforming them into futuristic depictions of cultural erosion. In his drawings, he shows what is possible if humans neglect urban spaces and nature finds a way of taking over. Well known buildings such as Frank Gehry's Walt Disney Concert Hall and the Capitol Records building are overrun by decay, graffiti, environmental distress, and overall neglect. Sculptural representations of stalactites and stalagmites will fill one of the galleries to serve as a stained record of earth's time. Middlebrook's show will present an eerie reminder of where we come from and what we may be headed for.

Jason Middlebrook's recent one-person exhibitions include *APL #1* at Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York; *APL #2* at Els Hannape Underground, Athens, Greece; and *Empire of Dirt*, at Palazzo Delle Papesse Centro Arte Contemporanea, Siena, Italy. He has also participated in an outdoor sculpture project at The Aspen Art Museum in Colorado and has exhibited at The New Museum of Contemporary Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, and The Welcome Trust in London.

The Margo Leavin Gallery is located at 812 North Robertson Boulevard in Los Angeles.
Gallery hours are 11a.m. to 5p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

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