

ART LATEST

Uwe Wittwer

This event has now finished **Until Sat Oct 3** , 6 Burlington Gardens, W1S 3ET

Art: Galleries: **Mayfair to Sloane Square** FREE Last chance



'1945'

Time Out says

By **Martin Coomer**

Posted: Fri Sep 11 2009

It's one of the most fundamental questions an artist can ask. Do you take on the glut of images already in the world or lock the studio door, breathe deeply into a paper bag and try to zone out? Judging from his London solo debut, Uwe Wittwer would answer that it's possible to do both. Employing studied neutrality (maybe being Swiss helps in such matters) Wittwer dispatches icons of art history and scenes from famous films, along with a more personal stash of imagery culled from photographs and the internet, to arrive at perplexingly dispassionate medleys of the dark, the dull and the downright odd.

Including borrowings from Gainsborough and Alfred Hitchcock, the first group of mostly black-and-white works on paper plays on ideas of voyeurism and authorship. Inevitably there are echoes of Luc Tuymans but Wittwer's processes and materials - especially inkjet printing on a grand scale - set him apart.

Like all the best artists, Wittwer is opportunistic - and always on the lookout. A watchtower appears three times, its presence shifting subtly from symbol of oppression to ominous artist substitute. By the fourth room, which contains enormous inkjet triptychs based on the three versions of Uccello's fifteenth-century masterpiece 'The Battle of San Romano', Wittwer has hit his stride, surrounding the viewer with a decorative frieze of reversed, almost solarised images that impart a combination of strangeness, violence and beauty quicker than you can say 'appropriation art'. This taut installation also highlights the fact that there's too much filler elsewhere. The less he does and the more ambivalent he appears, the better Wittwer gets. [Less](#)

Haunch of Venison details

[Haunch of Venison](#) ,
6 Burlington Gardens, W1S 3ET
Transport Piccadilly Circus

Telephone

020 7495 5050

Haunch of Venison map

