WOLFGANG TILLMANS

Hip Pix Mix

- Damien Hirst: Global Brand
- Stanley Ray's Surreal Legacy
- Alice Walton: Buying American
- Museums Race to MySpace
**Back to Cool**

Postwar Los Angeles was so hot it was cool. A show at the Orange County Museum of Art, “Birth of the Cool,” borrows its title from Miles Davis’s 1957 LP and examines the emergence of high modernism on the left coast.

In the 1950s California painters John McLaughlin, Karl Benjamin, Frederick Hammersley, and Helen Lundeberg pioneered a distinctive, hard-edge style that drew on both Surrealism and Abstract Expressionism. Their geometric compositions reflect a seemingly casual simplicity that is, as precisely, as a jazz arpeggio, “That sense of a major and deliberate arrangement, much of the L.A. ethos, writes. “It’s an effort that is look effortless.”

**DIRTY PICTURES**

Former Gucci designer Tom Ford is one of the most famous men in the world but painter and photographer Marilyn Minter had never heard of him. She approached her about shooting the fall ad campaigns for his new men’s fragrance and clothing lines. The designer had discovered Minter’s work was given a beach towel featuring Frostbite (2006), one of her signature smudged, glittery eyes, created to raise money for the Art Production Fund. Minter’s work, which is collected in a new monograph published by Gagosian, Miller & Company, has a fascination with soiled girl, from her “100 Food Porn” (1989–91) to recent images of a smudged, glittery eye, created to raise money for the Art Production Fund.

Minter’s work, which is collected in a new monograph published by Gagosian, Miller & Company, has a fascination with soiled girl, from her “100 Food Porn” (1989–91) to recent images. She wouldn’t remove the smudges of any of her images. “When the opposite of retouching explains. The scenes Minter shot a different kind of dirtiness, explicit sexuality. Minter’s first ad for Ford’s menswear line shows model Kulkov splashing through muddy water in toffee-colored loafers and high trousers. Future ads will feature shattered bottles of Tom Ford for Men and Brazilian model Cinthia Dicker. Minter describes the images as “stark, at times they will ignite a trend of unadulterated advertisement images with a roughness or imperfection. “Most of the time these days, the humanity is obliterated,” she says. “The eye starts to crave what is missing.”

—Jennifer Silverman