DOMOBAAL

Lara Viana

It might be a confusion of sense but it appears that these paintings seem to contain a quality of heat. Invariably this feeling would simply issue from the use of colour alongside a certain set of associations related to the employment of imagery but I would detect something beyond these more obvious elements and this I think pertains to the functioning of memory. This is not to imply that these paintings are directly about the working of memory but I would claim that they have either a lingering or even a quality of yearning. Simply put, we enter these paintings not just as a means of discovering a lost continent trapped between the virtuality of memory and the actuality of place but we leave them touched by a feeling of otherness which I designate when I utter the word heat. Such passages through and within the work of art are by no means straightforward but the elegant gestural trails of paint, the various saturations of colour and mood cushion us into believing that such a passage might yield a revelation of the elsewhere. As sensation these paintings appear direct and yet as disguised narrative there is something less secure, like a half remembered experience corroded by repression. The idea of a group of paintings that touch both this quality of corrosion and caress leaves me wanting to see more because I wish to linger within such strange mixtures of sense.

Jonathan Miles, May 2007, London.