

# Hervé Heuzé

## Seracs

July 5 – 4 September 4, 2005

I just returned from Paris last week, where I saw an excellent exhibition: Hervé Heuzé at Galerie Jean-Luc & Takako Richard, which runs from July 5 to September 4, 2005. Heuzé makes large-scale, oil and acrylic alpine scenes on canvas. Painted in a realistic but slightly abstract style, Heuzé's representations of European mountains are airless and frozen. With one exception, they depict a world entirely devoid of human beings, and as a result they project an uncanny aura. Because they peel away the layers of recent history – the habitation and colonization of the mountains that have gone on for centuries – one might conclude that Heuzé's canvases attempt to recall a lost primordial past of natural purity. This, however, is not the case. Instead of conjuring up a pure, "original" nature, they rather suggest a sterile, post-apocalyptic and "post-human" future.

I find the works both beautiful and perplexing in their strange literalness.

July 18, 2005

Matthew Biro

Matthew Biro is an art historian and art critic who collaborates with Contemporary