

Paintings Explore the Power of Computer Technology



Artist Tim Schouten's fascination with digital technology led him to paint "More RAM!"

the background. That sketch served as the catalyst for the paintings in this exhibition. The figure in Schouten's art became the body of the computer, which he says conveys through its appearance a power and elegance he finds appealing.

According to Schouten, the exhibition's title, "More RAM!" refers to the common quest among computer-users for more memory. However, it also reflects an investigation of the process of memory which is an important element in his art.

Schouten was born in Winnipeg but left at a young age. During his youth, he lived in New York, London, England and Montreal before settling in Toronto. He has studied art at several institutions including Toronto's Arts Sake Inc. from 1978-1980 and the Toronto School of Art, and has participated in numerous group exhibitions. In 1995, Schouten had his first solo exhibition at Del Bello Gallery in Toronto.

Since returning to Winnipeg last year, Schouten has become very involved within the Winnipeg art community. Two of his recent works have been accepted to the Art Rental Program at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. "More RAM!" is his first solo exhibition in Winnipeg. The exhibit received support from the Manitoba Arts Council.

"More RAM! Oil Paintings by Tim Schouten" runs through Sat., March 23. See *Coming Events* for details and gallery hours.

The traditional medium of oil paint on canvas is used to explore the power of digital technology in an upcoming exhibition in Gallery 1C03.

"More RAM! Oil Paintings by Tim Schouten" opens on Thurs., Feb. 29 from 4-6 p.m. in Gallery 1C03.

Schouten says his fascination with computer technology developed rapidly after he received an old Apple II computer as a gift in 1993. "I fell in love. I was enraptured with the technology and amazed at the power of these machines to process and exchange information."

Dissatisfied while working on a figurative painting, he took an old friend's advice to "paint what you like" and sketched his computer into

- More RAM! Oil Paintings by Tim Schouten opens in Gallery 1C03 from 4-6 p.m. This exhibition investigates the power of computer technology and some of the implications for our information-saturated culture. The artist will be present at the opening. The show runs through Sat., March 23. Hours are Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sat., 1-4 p.m.