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**Haiku Reviews: Not-Quite Minimalism, Hallucinatory
Hyper-Realism And 'The Glass Menagerie'**

HUFF
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ARTS

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MARC DENNIS, *Dragonslayer*, 2011, Oil on canvas, 24 x 38 inches

Marc Dennis, dependably, puts his slick and exacting hyper-realist technique and ever-more naturalistic pictorial thinking to disturbing, perhaps politically incorrect purpose. His still lifes, seen from above, document an opulent and dangerous lifestyle, strewing jewels and keys and drinks and desserts - what bedecks dressers after a night on the town - with more sinister items, in particular guns of various sizes. Whoever's having fun just out of visual range isn't taking any chances (except, perhaps, in the bedroom itself). These still lifes write their own rather cinematic narratives, even as they allow us the pleasure of casting them. Dennis provides us greater depth of field in his renditions of well-stocked meat lockers, but - no less decadent in this context - these noir settings inspire less fleshly fantasy. Anxiety has a way of suppressing hunger; while the (un)dresser pictures promise a real debauch despite - or perhaps because - of the guns' presence, the meat pictures imply less feast than death. (Hasted-Kraeutler, 537 W. 24th St., NY; closed. www.hastedkraeutler.com)

- Peter Frank