FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 9 – October 4, 2009

"MIRAGE SERIES"

STEVE ALDERTON

Opening Reception:
Friday, September 11, 6 - 8:30 pm

A "mirage" is a phenomenon that creates a distortion of an object due to the atmosphere surrounding it. The term derives from the Latin "mirare" – "to look at, to wonder at." A mirage often manifests itself as a soft, obscured, watery essence of an object. In this series of paintings, the artist produces strongly evocative works that capture mirage-like snapshots. The representations are both illusory and familiar. The artist's intent is to reduce the amount of detail, as in a mirage, and thus allow the viewer to complete the picture and create a personal connection.

The series includes portraits, cityscapes, still-lifes, and landscapes. One landscape includes what appears to be two farm structures viewed from across a field; the hot, shimmering light of a summer's day has had its effects. Another painting shows a cityscape, with a mass of loosely rendered buildings. In both works, the atmosphere has seemingly blurred many of the specifics -- but there is enough information in the watery images to transfix and invite one in. The artist's technique successfully conveys the essence of his message, but also effectively leaves room for personal interpretation. The result is strong and engaging.

Alderton has exhibited in Washington DC and New York galleries; his work can be found in both private and corporate collections.

For more information please contact Ksenia Grishkova at touchstonegallery@verizon.net

Images: Cityscape 5, Mixed Media, 30 x 30 inches (top left), Figurative 8, Mixed Media, 35 x 45 inches (middle right) and Landscape 3, Mixed Media, 30 x 30 inches (bottom left) by Steve Alderton