

"Excuse me but can I be a painting" asks one of the figures on display at Keith Farquhar's new exhibition at Galerie NEU.

Another asks: "Can i b a painting 2"

The figures are made from GORE-TEX jackets on to which dried acrylic paint swatches have been attached, and their words profoundly express how the artist is challenging the concept of painting as he sees it right now.

The breakthrough came during Farquhar's recent solo exhibition at Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, where he made lifesize, gay skinheads whose fabrication included the bleaching of denim jeans.

"The bleaching allowed me to paint as an expressionist for a while," the artist commented at the time. With these new figures, he has taken this idea further by actually painting on pre-fabricated jackets, albeit through the employment of a radically foreign technique.

Hence, a new painting is made that has little or no resemblance to painting today.

The Third Person  
March 2005