



Kamrooz Aram, *The Gleam of the Morning's First Beam*, 2005, oil and stickers on canvas, 84 x 120 inches, courtesy of Oliver Kamm 5BE Gallery, New York

**New York City**  
**Kamrooz Aram**  
**Night Visions and**  
**Revolutionary Dreams**  
**Oliver Kamm 5BE Gallery**  
**February 16 –**  
**March 17, 2007**  
**[www.5begallery.com](http://www.5begallery.com)**

In Kamrooz Aram's world, revolutionary mantras pale in the light of day and exalted heroes fall at the bat of an eyelash. In his latest show at Oliver Kamm Gallery, the New York-based artist presents a series of drawings and paintings that engage with the delicate creation of visual traditions—whether mythical, political, or spiritual—through symbols. Though he appropriates iconic imagery, Aram's works are not fixed in a particular place or time; his highly stylized, verging on psychedelically abstract paintings and drawings are as diverse as his references—alluding, often in oblique manner, to everything from the Book of Revelation to Rastafari to contemporary war propaganda. Whatever the content, it is the monolithic worldview, the full-proof ideology, and the myth of advancement that are at stake here. An extension of his last series, which took the glorified nature of the Star-Spangled Banner as a point of departure, he subtly interrogates how we create and, finally, consume meaning—the layers within layers of his canvases exposing the constructed nature of the world around us.