

The Art Depository

106 E. Maple Street
Nicholasville, KY 40356

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 4, 2008

THIRD TIME AROUND

A Group Show of University of Kentucky Artists and Professors

NICHOLASVILLE, KY, MARCH 29, 2008: The Art Depository will present a select group of students and professors from University of Kentucky College of Fine Arts, for an exhibit of works in downtown Nicholasville, KY from April 10, 2008 through May 10, 2008. An artist's reception open to the public will be held on April 11, 2008 from 4 pm until 8 pm.

This year's exhibit, the third for UK at the Art Depository, is extremely exciting. The quality of work is way above par for student work, covering a wide range including photography in three formats, oil painting, silkscreen, and fiber.



Participants in the exhibit are

Ruth Ann Adams
Hilary Brown
Gerald Ferstman
Sarah Jane Gray

Marie Nartowicz
Mary Katharine Norman
Lee Ann Paynter
Joseph Southard

Becca Thomas
Salvador Villagran
Karine Wilson

For more information about University of Kentucky art program, visit

<http://www.uky.edu/FineArts>.

The Art Depository is currently open Thursday 10 -4, Friday 10 – 7, and Saturday from 10 – 4. Appointments can be made to view the gallery Monday through Wednesday calling 859-885-0106 or email to gallery@artdepository.org.

The Artists

Ruth Ann Adams
Hilary Brown
Gerald Ferstman
Sarah Jane Gray

Marie Nartowicz
Mary Katharine Norman
Lee Ann Paynter
Joseph Southard

Becca Thomas
Salvador Villagran
Karine Wilson



Mary Katharine Norman

Katharine is from Paris, Kentucky, the daughter of John and Charlene Norman. She currently is a senior at the University of Kentucky graduating this May with her BA in Art Studio. Her emphasis is in Fiber and Photography, working in both mediums and often mixing the two in her work. Katharine is also a member of the Stoner Creek Arts Council.

Artist Statement

I had the opportunity of a lifetime last summer when I was one of eight photography students from UK to study abroad in Italy. We spent a month touring the country and taking more photographs than I ever could have imagined. This body of work comes from some of those pictures and is called Memories of Italy. They are my reflections of Italy: large, yet light and fleeting, as memories always are.



Karine Wilson

Karine is from Wisconsin, and is in her second year working toward her MFA in Art Studio and her MA in Art History.

Artist Statement

I am inspired by structure and concerned with formal explorations of painting. Through composition and color I have been searching for every day influences and experiences in these environments that surround us. karine@spacestar.net
<http://www.karinewilson.com>



Hilary Brown

Hilary Brown is an MFA candidate at the University of Kentucky. Her main focus is digital photography and alternative photographic processes, and often combines the two. If you would like to know more, buy her a drink.

Artist Statement

This body of work concerns the divine presence in our everyday world, and the ethereal effect it can have on us and our surroundings. The imagery in the photographs is not intended to be of a religious nature, but rather they are open to any interpretation or meaning derived by the viewer. It is the artist's hope that the viewer finds some sort of comfort or solace in these images.



Joseph Southard

UK BFA senior, Born in Louisville Kentucky

Artist Statement

With my head in the clouds, I've contemplated the meaning and purpose to my work and have come to this conclusion; only through the innocence and honesty of our own inner child will we be able to see the world around us without bias, cynicism, and doubt. I have strived to rediscover my own inner child and to see my work and the world that surrounds me through the eyes of this inner child. Finding a sense of humor that will appeal to both our cynical adult side as well as the buried inner child in all of us.



Becca Thomas

My name is Becca Thomas. I am a 22 year old senior at the University of Kentucky. I'm originally from Lexington, but I grew up in Lancaster, Kentucky. I am an Art Studio major with an emphasis in photography. I enjoy all of the arts to some degree, but photography is where my heart lies. This is only my second time participating in a photo show. I recently placed second-runner up in the 4th Annual University of Kentucky Advanced Photo Show.

Artist Statement

After three years of being a photography student, I find myself taking pictures of the same things I photographed when I started in Photo 1. My fascination of abandoned places began with a hospital in Georgetown, Kentucky. It's no longer standing because the city turned it into a parking lot, however, I still have the proof that there used to be a pretty cool building in its place. I turned away from photographing the abandoned because I felt it was too cliché. Every photo I student I saw after me had pictures of run down buildings. I tried to stray from that area of photography, but after two semesters of photographing feminism and self portraits, I found myself going back to what I was drawn to in the first place. I came to the point where I didn't care if what I photographed seemed cliché. If I did it in a manner that was pleasing to me, that's what mattered. I have a love of driving the strange, country, back roads and coming upon something someone left behind years ago. A place that's been overgrown with nature and completely forgotten. I have changed my idea just a bit from when I first began. I don't limit myself to just buildings. I'm drawn to any man made object that's being reclaimed by nature. Nature is a powerful being and I don't think we realize that no matter how technologically advanced we become has the human race, nature will always prevail.



Lee Ann Paynter

Lee Ann Paynter is an emerging artist in the Lexington area who is currently pursuing a BFA at the University of Kentucky. She was born in Danville, and after some time living in Southern California has returned to her roots in Kentucky. She is an artist who chooses to see the beauty in the little things in life, and with her work expresses an appreciation of the world around her. "It is sometimes the smallest detail or a beautiful curve that creates the greatest interest to me. Even the beauty of the clouds astonishes me every day."

Lee Ann usually works in black and white photography, which she chooses for the rich tones and artistic qualities inherent in the traditional methods using film and darkroom printing. However, her most recent body of work reflects her talent with color photography as well. Last summer the artist spent a month photographing in both color and black and white in Tuscany, Rome, Venice and Cinque Terre, Italy with instructor Ruth Adams. This was an adventure for Lee Ann, both because of the medium as well the culture she was able to experience and document.

Lee Ann's work was juried into the Carrie Ellis Juried Exhibition at the Barnhart Gallery in December 2006, and was included in the Coldstream Invitational Exhibits Winter 2007 and Summer 2007. She was recently in the Photography: What Now? Exhibit at the Loudoun House, and has a solo show coming up at the Community Arts Center in Danville, Kentucky in the spring of 2008. lapayn2@uky.edu
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/8046446@N06/>



Marie Nartowicz

Marie Nartowicz was born in College Park, Georgia, which is a suburb of Atlanta. She spent most of her younger days in Marietta, where her family moved when she was 5, Marietta is also a suburb of Atlanta. Throughout her childhood her parents always encouraged creative expression. They fed her love of expression from quite an early age. After moving to Kentucky at age 13, Marie began to love the beautiful countryside she soon learned to call home. Marie is a University of Kentucky Bachelor of Fine Arts student whom is graduating this semester. Marie works in many mediums mainly silk,

fabric, glass, beads, steel, iron, bronze and aluminum. She has extensively exhibited locally and is planning a senior solo exhibition in conjunction with the April Gallery Hop.

Artist Statement

The expression of art is a direct representation of the soul and the inner workings of all that is human. To be allowed visual expression and the ability to use this is an essential component of any artist's life. Art is a celebration of the way the world is, or perhaps should be. Artists choose to represent ideas visually in order to convey a message or meaning. The freedom of this is purely primeval.



Sal Villagran

Awards

2005 Joan S. Brady Travel Scholarship
2005 Steven Leitner Award National Arts Club New York NY
2004 Award of Merit New York Academy of Art

Education

2006 Grand Central Academy of Art, Dan Thompson
New York, NY
2003-2005 New York Academy of Art MFA Cum Laude
New York, NY
2004 Studio 126, Dan Thompson
New York, NY
1999-2002 Laguna College of Art and Design BFA

Laguna Beach, CA

Also Attended private workshops from various artists including Nelson Shanks, Michael Hussar, and Steven Assael.

Experience

2008- Wizards of the Coast Hasbro, Inc.
2006-Present University of Kentucky Adjunct Drawing Instructor
2007 Living Arts and Science Center Art Instructor
2000- Present Medical Illustrator For Dr. George Gonzalez Sole Proprietor of GRT Solutions
2003 Skank Studios, Figure Drawing Workshop

My work has also been obtained for private collections to Families and Corporations such as The Zahn Family, Tom Defilippe, King Taco L.A., Meyer Family, Hydes Family, and Dr. Suresh Saxena

<http://www.salvillagranart.com>, mailto:ms_vador@hotmail.com



Ruth Adams

Ruth Adams is a nationally recognized artist best known for startling portraits of organics and combining new imaging technologies with the traditional sensibilities of a photographer. She has exhibited nationally, won numerous awards and grants, and her photographs hang in numerous private and public collections. She is currently an assistant professor of Photography at the University of Kentucky. She holds an MFA in Photography and Digital Art from the University Of Miami, a BFA in Photography from Rochester Institute of Technology, and a BS in Computer Science from Syracuse University. An experienced photographer, digital artist, and educator, Ruth has developed a reputation as a dynamic instructor and an innovative artist, and has enjoyed introducing students and patrons of the arts to the new world of digital applications available to the traditional photographer.

Artist Statement

Organic Studies:3-Dimensional Direct Scans (Scanner as Camera)

A fellow artist once gave me three important pieces of advice: first, "look at the ordinary as extraordinary;" second, "be passionate about whatever it is you do;" and most

importantly “photograph what most compels you to stop and look.” For me, what compels me to stop and look are pieces of the natural world. Whatever the medium I am working with, the natural world is the motivation for me to make art. It is what I am most drawn to and what I see as most extraordinary. Exploring the intimate details of nature makes me appreciate the awesome power of the natural world and all that it can create.

Organic Studies stemmed from my grandmother’s illness and death, and my resulting fascination with immortalizing death and decay. I do this by taking little pieces of the natural world (organics) out of context so that I can study them in more detail and without distraction. The resulting images have an inherent sensuality that is impossible to ignore, and is found throughout nature. This is far more than the obvious male sexuality that is so often apparent in flowers. In fact, many of the images are essentially female. They have a sense of envelopment, of soft sensuality, of fertility. Even though this project started as a testament to the beauty in death, when I see these images, I know they are also about fertility, relationship and rebirth.

My photography consists of two-dimensional digital flatbed scans of three-dimensional organic objects printed onto watercolor paper. Because the scanner is supporting the object while at the same time photographing it, it gives the objects a floating quality that is difficult to achieve in other ways. In addition, because the main light source is actually the camera itself (the CCD array), the images have a beautiful quality of light hitting the object from the ‘eye’ of the viewer. The resulting image has a soft, painterly quality that is quite different from the traditional photographic image and is much more fitting to the subject’s ethereal qualities.

I enjoy the contradiction of photographing soft organic objects using state of the art digital technology and breaking the rules of traditional photography by making photographs without a camera. The subsequent images created on the computer cannot be achieved in any other way.



Gerald Ferstman

Gerald Ferstman is an associate professor in the University of Kentucky Art Department. His own education includes a bachelor’s of fine arts from Ohio University, where he studied with David Driesbach; an MFA from the University of Washington, where he studied with Glen Alps; and additional studies at the Institute of San Miguel Allende in Mexico. Recipient of a Huntington Museum Award of Excellence and an AI Smith Fellowship from the Kentucky Arts Council, Gerald has had works included in exhibits of contemporary printmaking at the Boston Museum; the Seattle Museum of Art; the University of Washington’s Henri Gallery; the Art Institute of Chicago; the Huntington (WV) Museum; the Speed Art Museum in Louisville; the Museum of Modern Art at Casa de la Cultura in Cuenca,

Ecuador; and many other regional museums. His works are in the permanent collections at Bradley University and the University of Washington.

As an educator, Gerald also researches and writes about art technique. His article “Not Dying for Their Art: UK Printmakers Create Nontoxic Techniques” was published in *Odyssey*, the University of Kentucky’s publication on research and graduate studies. Two additional articles that can be found online are *Intaglio Technical Information: Etching Procedure and Water-Base Etching Grounds* at the University of Kentucky.

Artist Statement

Painting is for me a very natural art. Children are naturally drawn to the act of making art as a means of expression and keeping their young minds from being bored. When a child reaches a young age of about 5 or 6 years old, they are told to make art and to draw in a certain way, which starts to place restriction on their minds. They are asked to conform. Most children succumb to the pressure. And those children who don’t—the ones who don’t color in between the lines—are considered outsiders and are not obedient. I believe I am an outsider and after 35 years as a professional artist, still a big child.