

MANIFEST

v34



Mythography + **Selections | 4th International Drawing Annual**

MANIFEST

CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY
AND DRAWING CENTER

volume 34

Mythography

+

Selections

4th International Drawing Annual

MANIFEST is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

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Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center

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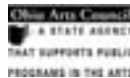
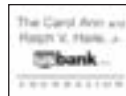
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Mythography

March 6 - April 3, 2009

Jessica Grace Bechtel

Charles Caldemeyer

Bill Domonkos

Laura Fisher

David Hannon

Amanda Jaffe

Hugh Jones

Noriko Kuresumi

Robert McCann

Joseph Miller

Greg Sand

Christopher Troutman

Chris White

Curated by Tim Parsley



What role does story play in a society that seems increasingly defined by production, laws, budgets, and CNN sound bites? For some, story is the luxury of childhood; packed away with toy gun holsters and ballerina outfits when we head off into the “real-world” of adulthood. If story stays with us into maturity, it is often regulated to the realm of “escape” or hobby – something to enjoy or find interest in only once deadlines are met, clients are satisfied, dishes are washed and put away. Yet society still finds solace, maybe desperately so, in blockbuster films and TV series, allowing them to indulge their need for story.

Artists of different stripes have known that stories are vessels of meaning. Often fiction can be truer than the facts. The imaginative helps us to see more clearly. How many of us, when hearing a tale told well – whether through film, novel, or just a friend sharing a personal experience – have not felt the resonance of connection with that story? While we may not share the particulars of the tale, something corresponds with our experience – or calls us out from our experiences – and widens our view, deepens our understanding, and locates our sense of being.



Jessica Grace Bechtel (Cincinnati, OH)
Ripening, oil on wood box, 48" x 36" x 18", 2007

Mythography: An Exploration of Narrative exhibits the work of 13 artists who still believe in the potency of story. While many of these works are elusive in meaning (as many good stories are), they take on new layers of meaning when displayed alongside each other (we might say, they resonate and deepen with each other). Some of the stories find their strength in archetypal narratives that have defined entire civilizations while others are more personal, memoir-ish, giving the viewer a glimpse into the private experience of the Other. Eve makes an appearance, though in various guises in the works of Jessica Grace Bechtel, Joseph Miller, and the sensuously delicate sculpture of Noriko Kuresumi. History has a chapter as well: fragmented, re-pieced, and manipulated together in the films of Bill Domonkos and the weathered book of photographs by Laura Fisher. Boats, descending stairwells and flying blimps invite us to take a journey, to explore, to travel to lands unknown.

In the wake of Modernism's insistence that art need only refer to itself, the works in *Mythography* unashamedly take us somewhere else. Shirking Modernism's academic dismissal of the narrative as merely illustrative, they operate as windows into other realities. Consequently, *Mythography* offers us another page in the various chapters being written after the story of Modernism, reminding us that while surface carries its own important content, so much art made today goes beyond a dogmatic attachment to the eminence of form.

People need stories. While *Manifest* is firmly committed to a broad range of artistic approaches, we are proud to offer this distinct contribution to the telling of tales by visual artists and further fulfill our mission of creating quality-centered experiences for the viewing public.





Charles Caldemeyer (Mansfield, OH)
Creators and Destroyers, encaustic, oil, watercolor, 38" x 38" x 2", 2005





Bill Domonokos (Oakland, CA)
stills from: *The Ambient Medium*, *Nocturne*, and *Song for Sonnabend*, DVD film, 2007





Laura Fisher (Cincinnati, OH)
Part One: *Dreams*, old book, silver gelatin prints, 10" x 8" x 1", 2009







David Hannon (Muncie, IN)
Strange Gifts, oil on panel, 49" x 84" x 3", 2008



Amanda Jaffe (Las Cruces, NM)
Leaf Pile in a Canoe, porcelain, 3" x 12" x 10.5", 2008



Hugh Jones (Arlington, VA)
The Nature of Photographs, photograph, 17" x 11", 2009



Noriko Kuresumi (Astoria, NY)
Sea Creature, ceramics, 9" x 12.5" x 8", 2008



Robert McCann (East Lansing, MI)
Specimens, oil on panel, 20" x 31", 2006



Joseph Miller (Buffalo, NY)
Search, graphite, 21.5" x 20.5", 2004



Joseph Miller (Buffalo, NY)
Flag, graphite, 22.25" x 21.5", 2004



Greg Sand (Clarksville, TN)

Snapshot: *Sitting Portrait*, digital photograph, 3.25" x 5.25", 2008



Christopher Troutman (Richmond, KY)
Mischief, charcoal on paper, 60" x 52.5", 2008



Chris White (Bellevue, WA)
Grandma & Grandpa, oil on canvas, 25" x 30", 2008







Selections | 4th International Drawing Annual

March 6 - April 3, 2009

Susan D'Amato

Christina Empedocles

Gregory Euclide

Jason John

Charles Kanwischer

Paul Loehle

Douglas Miller

Ross Racine

Curated by Jason Franz

Selections from the International Drawing Annual is the fourth annual presentation of this exhibit, featuring a sampling of artworks to be included in the forthcoming 2008 International Drawing Annual exhibit-in-print publication.

The International Drawing Annual was conceived as an extension of Manifest's Drawing Center mission to promote, feature, and explore drawing as a rich and culturally significant art form. The goal of the International Drawing Annual is to support the recognition, documentation, and publication of excellent, current, and relevant works of drawing from around the world. Fast becoming one of the preeminent international publications focusing on drawing from year to year, the Annual stakes ground on behalf of those working in drawing (of all types), and for Cincinnati as a center of important dialogue about this essential practice.

Over 410 artists from around the world submitted 1100 works for consideration to the 2008 INDA. A ten-person jury and curatorial process selected 100 works by 59 finalists for the forthcoming publication. Selections from the 4th International Drawing Annual serves as a preview sampling prior to the formal release of the publication. The eight works presented here will be among those included in the exhibit-in-print.



Susan D'Amato (Syracuse, NY)
Untitled (*Shadow*), charcoal, 22" x 30", 2008



Christina Empedocles (San Francisco, CA)
Orioles and Blackbirds, wax pencil on paper, 6.25" x 10", 2008



Gregory Euclide (Minneapolis, MN)

From this Distance: Sound Pearls, acrylic, pencil, photo transfer, pine cone, birch bark, paper, 50" x 47", 2007

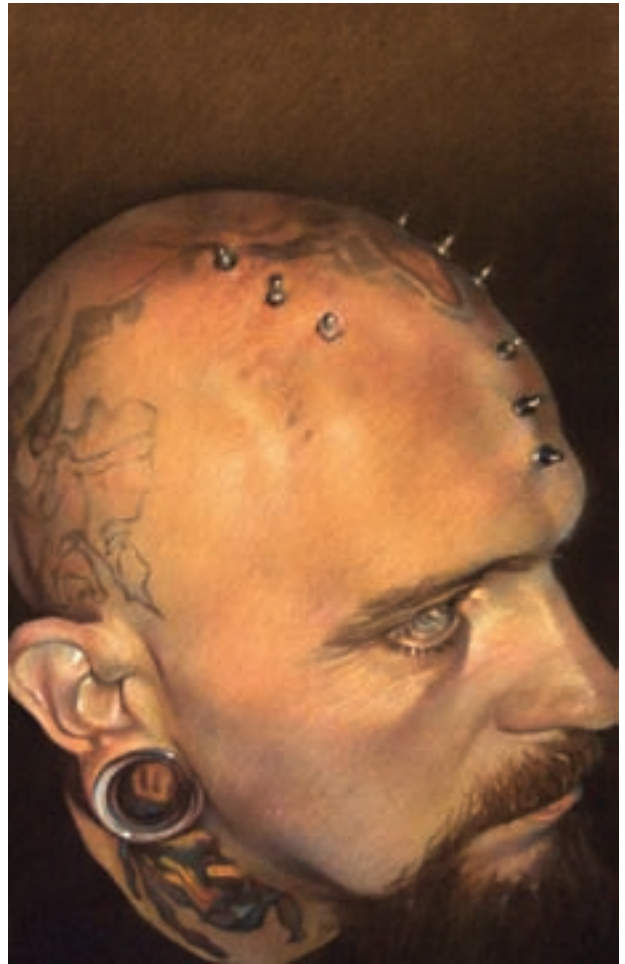


Jason John (Sidman, PA)
The Party Dress, charcoal on toned paper, 11" x 11" 2007



Charles Kanwischer (Waterville, OH)

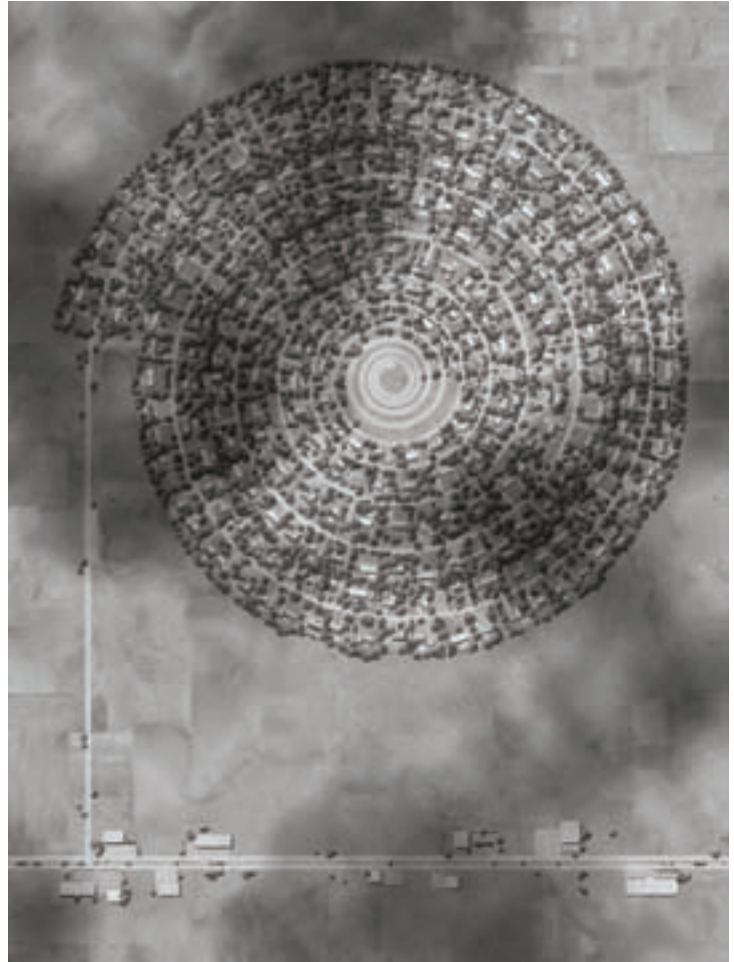
Untitled (Patio), graphite on panel, 11"x 15", 2007



Paul Loehle (Cincinnati, OH)
My Space 1, pastel, 26"x 18", 2008



Douglas Miller (Louisville, KY)
Pig, mixed media on paper, 32" x 40", 2008



Ross Racine (New York, NY)
Subdivision: Greenfield Lakes (small version), digital drawing (inkjet on paper), 20.5" x 15.35", 2008





About Manifest

Founded in May of 2004, Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization headquartered in the urban neighborhood of East Walnut Hills in Cincinnati, Ohio. The elegant street level exhibition space is minutes away from downtown Cincinnati, and the numerous academic institutions of higher learning in the region. It is also within easy walking distance of a diversely populated historic neighborhood with residents from all walks of life. The galleries are free and open to the public five hours a day, five days a week, presenting works by students and professionals from around the world. The Manifest Drawing Center Studio is located in the nearby Walnut Hills Essex Studios Complex.

Manifest is supported by grants and public donations and has the goal to support student professionalism, integrate the arts into the urban residential community and raise the bar on artistic standards. The mission also includes the exploration of the relationship between art and design, as well as the ongoing support and display of drawing in all its various forms.

Mission Statement:

Manifest enhances the role of art and design in society by cultivating and focusing the transformative power of creativity in the visual arts. Manifest benefits people in the global and local community, including professionals, students, and the public, by creating quality-centered experiences focused on contemporary visual arts and related activities in the context of creative exploration.

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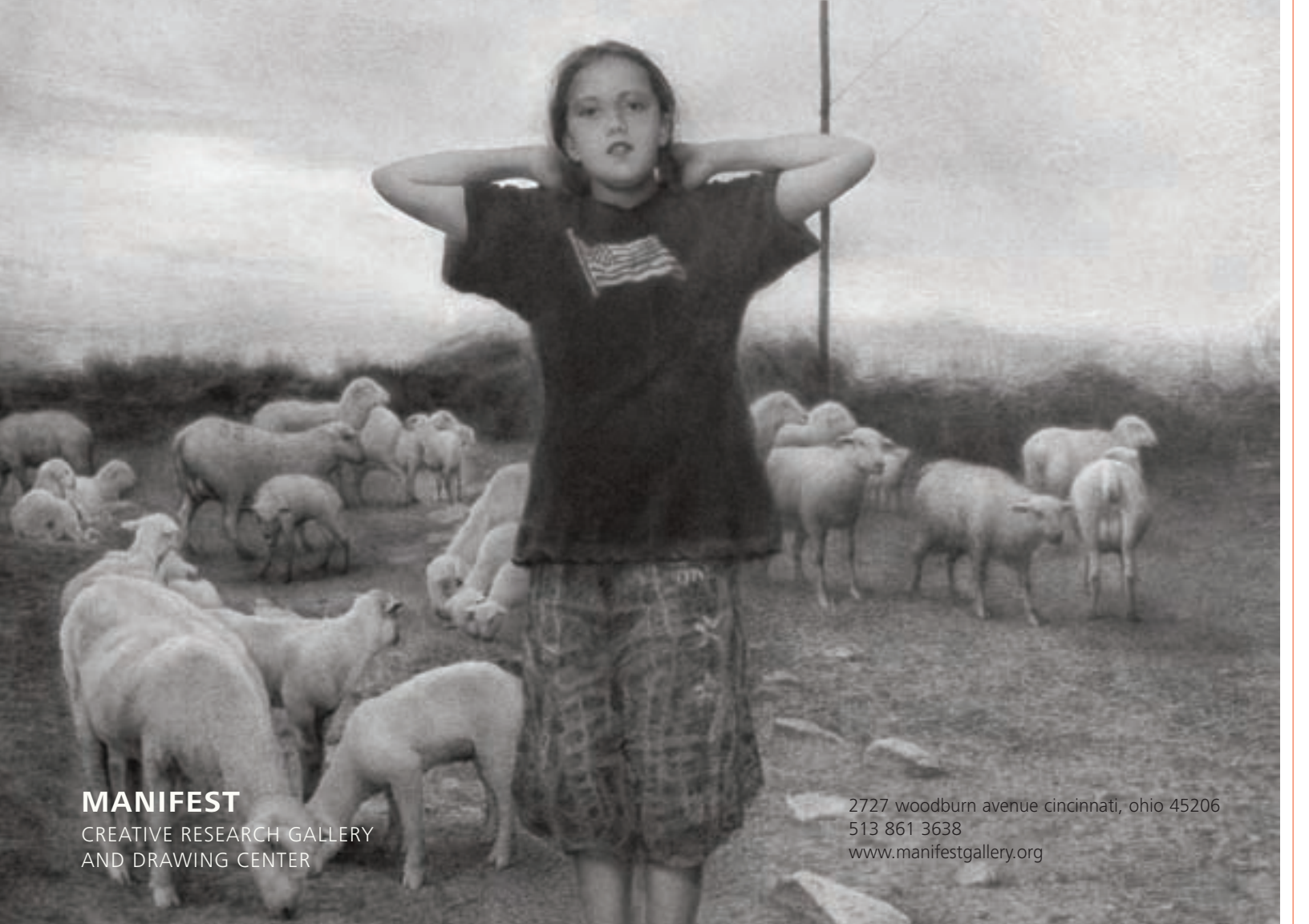
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