English Reports

Cosmos
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GHASS ARTISTS BREAK NEW FRONTIERS

MAPPING THE FORM

WORKS BY BRAD COPPING AND KEVIN LOCKAU,
Galerie Elena Lee
428 Sherbrooke St. W.
Call
(514) 844-6069

Till June 8

In the 16th century, Italian artisans woking with the famous Murano glass forbidden under the pain of death to leave the island, so precious and guarded were the secrets of glass-making. Born of fire, made out of sand and held a fascination of a very special group of artists.

The complicated process of creating glass art involves patience and perseverance, as well as the acceptance of the risk of an accident to which the fragile medium is prone at every step.

Two outstanding glass artists are now on display at Galerie Elena Lee, in an exhibition that challenges our notion of the medium. Brad Copping and Kevin Lockau belong to a group of contemporary Canadian glass artists, which also includes people like Susan Edgarley, Dan Grieve, and Jeff Goodman, connected with Sheridan College in Oakville, Ont., where Halifax-born Lockau is an instructor. Veteran of numerous exhibitions, he creates works imbued with an atomicistic symmetry, sculptures that seem to be inhabited by some primeval spirit. Combining glass with such materials as fur and tar, Lockau has cast life-sized glass canines, eyesless and mute, but, nevertheless, eerily lifelike.

A very different sensibility is exhibited by Brad Copping, one of the most promising young glass artists in Canada, whom gallery owner Elena Lee, calls "the next François Houdé." Like Lockau, Copping combines glass with other materials, in his case, wood, and he also draws his inspiration from nature. Looking at Copping's somewhat abstract sculptures is like looking at undulating forests and moss-covered mounds, rivers and light bouncing off ripples.

A complicity exists between the two artist's separate, yet kindred, productions, as they invest the medium of glass with both personal aesthetic and the stamp of nature.

Dorota Kozinska

ANNE KAHANE: DUALITIES

Anne Kahane

February 18 - March 20

During the Quiet Revolution in Quebec, when abstraction dominated the avant garde, Anne Kahane was working in a style that fused figuration and social content. Her sculpture has since been neglected by formalist historians immersed in avant garde tautologies and values. Kahane's artmaking process was simple. She assembled flat sections of steel or planks of wood and then carved and sometimes painted these assemblages to bring a certain warmth to social subjects. In Delegation (1957), exhibited at the Venice Biennale in 1958, heads, bodies and legs sculpted out of a single block of wood move forward in a collectivized mass. A sense that sculpture can play a role in heightening awareness of social and humanitarian concerns pervades this piece. Anne Kahane commented on the work: "As it took a life of its own, I recognized it as a delegation and proceeded to bring this idea forth." The rough, untreated texture of the wood, akin to Baselitz's recent neo-expressionist sculptures, seen in Kahane's Broken Man 1 (1965) is a paraphrase for social injustice. One feels exterior forces pressing on the exposed, abstract, wood.

The human scale of Kahane's individual sculptural works is even more emphatic in the public art commissions she conceived. These include the Sculpture Wall Kahane created for Mount Allison University in Sackville, N.B. in 1961, Song of the Earth at Salle Wilfrid Pelletier, Place-des-Arts in Montreal (1963), La Mer for the Canadian Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan (1972), and The Forests for the Great Lakes Forest Research Centre in Sault Ste. Marie (1975).

Like Barbara Hepworth, Kahane's public art projects were quintessentially human, social and at odds with the concrete and steel 1½% projects that now litter our "planned" architectural landscape of Quebec and Canada. More subtle, less generic, Kahane's public projects were a courageous effort to humanize the public and social context of art. Was Kahane's sculpture from the 1950s and 1960s less avant garde than that of her contemporaries? One needs only to look at Paul-Emile Borduas' tiny allegorical wood carvings from the same era to find a parallel almost folk art language paralleling the dogmas of abstraction.

Kahane's Maquette for an Unknown Political Prisoner (1953) made of copper tubing, plastic wood and bound together with wire is as poignant a commentary on social and political injustice as could be found anywhere in the 1950s, yet it achieves its effect without leaving the human subject behind. Exhibited at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London, England, Anne Kahane's Maquette, along with works by Reg Butler, Lynn Chadwick and Barbara Hepworth won an award from among 3500 submissions from 57 countries.

Soon within the cultural context, Anne Kahane's wood sculptures still stand the test of time, and are better understood and appreciated by the public than the codified, conceptual commonplace of abstractions that typify the post-modernist post-production aesthetic. A recent portfolio of six abstract, Matisse-like polychrome woodblock prints by Kahane titled Suite pour Beuys (1997), included in the Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery show give us a glimpse of Kahane's current artistic production. Recontextualizing her innovations with carved wood and metal assemblage roofs, this show reaffirms Kahane's place as an apposite innovator of the modernist epoch in Quebec sculpture. Intuitive, playful and inventive, Anne Kahane's art finds its form in the materials. Her aesthetic is social and humane.

John K. Grande

COSMOS: FROM ROMANTICISM TO THE AVANT-GARDE

Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
June 17th - October 17th, 1999

We now live in a world where images of sub-atomic particles and galaxies — the infinitely small and incredibly large — are part of our everyday experience. Not visible to the naked eye, these images create a certain anxiety; for they are accessed by instruments whose ingenuity surpasses our natural perception of things. Cubism, Futurism, Vorticism or even T.S. Eliot's The Waste Land presented an altogether new fragment, discontinuous vision of the world yet ironically many 20th century artists have sought to create the world anew so as to manifest some interconnectedness between all things.

Marshall McLuhan's Global Village is now upon us, yet data quantification and dissemination further distances and desensitizes us to our immediate environment at the same time as there is a convergence of cultures, information and knowledge. Why have so many artists sought to embody notions of a "pure" universe at the same time as information continues to displace direct experience?
as Odillon Redon, Mark Tansey, John Martin and Piet Mondrian and including rare vintage photographs from Daguerre to Edward Muybridge to NASA. Cosmos addresses the way we have mapped this earth, outer space, the constellations, the stars and the solar system. Does this reaffirm a vision of an Earthly Paradise etymologically bound up in our Judeo-Christian traditions? Are we embarking on an altogether new voyage of discovery as we enter the 21st century? Some answers to these questions may be provided by looking at the art but one thing is abundantly clear. While the modus vivendi clearly enunciated for Cosmos is that it "demonstrates how great a source of inspiration the quest for new frontiers and the exploration of space have been for artistic creation over the past two centuries", the focus is strictly occidental and as such bound up in our Judeo-Christian tradition. Does this reaffirm a vision of the future as an Earthly Paradise emphatically seen through the lens of Daumier's work.

The art in Cosmos is encyclopaedic in its breadth. (Hans Arp, Giacomo Balla, Albert Bierstadt, Ross Bleckner, Borduas, Brancusi, Alexander Calder, Emily Carr, Frederic Church, Giorgio de Chirico, Max Ernst, Paterson Ewen, Francesco Goya, Ilya Kabakov, Elisha Kent Kane, Anselm Kiefer, Francisque Kupka, El Lissitzky, Kasimir Malevich, Antoine Pevsner, Robert Rauschenberg, Mark Rothko, Luigi Russolo, Gino Severini, Vladimir Tatlin, Bruno Taut, J. M. W. Turner, Vincent Van Gogh and Joyce Wieland to name but a few), yet the thematic behind this show suggests a one-sided view of artistic achievement over the past two centuries. Cultural production is perceived through the lens of the conqueror, those who left behind familiar territory to explore the New World, the Poles of the Earth, and now outer space. As such, Cosmos raises questions about the future of art as much as about its past.

Is this really a celebration of the New Millennium and humanity's penchant for apperception through exploration or just a recreation of the Earthly Paradise theme seen through the lens of history? It is not necessary to sell art to the public as a product of science, but theory always helps to transmit it's permanent cultural value!

**OTTAWA**

**DAUMIER**
National Gallery of Canada
June 11 - September 6

It's summer in the cities and people are on the move. They come from as far as you can imagine. Tourists are the people who give a city a sense of its place in the world. Those visiting Ottawa will be gratified to see the premiere exhibition of the works of one of the world's more influential artists at the National Gallery. Honoré Daumier's work is the centre of attention from June 11 until September 6.

Although many may not suspect it, he was one of the 19th century's most prolific artists, with over 4,000 lithographs, 500 paintings, 800 drawings and nearly 1,000 woodcuts to his name. His political cartoons were among the greatest ever published, a testament to his keen powers of observation and sharp wit, though both qualities led to his incarceration in 1831 for a questionable portrayal of King Louis-Philippe. The case made Daumier an instant celebrity, and became an example of the prosecution of an artist by the state.

Spanning a career of fifty years, his work embodies a broad range of subjects while giving the viewer an insider's look at the full spectrum of Parisian types of the 19th century. Daumier was one of the first painters to document modern life as lived by ordinary people: argumentative couples, thieves, lawyers, emancipated women, victims of war, the world of theatre and vaudeville. He depicted the human condition with irony and compassion and a finely tuned sense of humour.

This exhibition of over three hundred works is organized by the National Gallery of Canada in collaboration with the Musée d'Orsay in Paris and the Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.

**DONIGAN CUMMING:**
**BARBER MUSIC**
Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography
May 23 - September 19, 1999

The exhibition of photography, documentary film, and sound that is the work of Montreal artist, Donigan Cumming, will challenge commonly held perceptions of the role photographers play in the communication of a factual depiction of the world. Donigan Cumming has reinvented the documentary genre exploring and exposing social issues such as aging, illness and economic status. The real, the invented, and the desired are combined in works that involve intimate close-ups of the subjects revealing as much about the artist as his focus.

The nucleus of the exhibition is Barber's Music, an installation of photographs and video tapes. The real-life basis of the work is the situation of a man, Colin, whose recovery from alcohol and drug addiction is documented in a tape, Erratic Angel (1998), running continuously. The gallery space is conceived as exploding out of Colin's room, absorbing the viewer in his predicament.

Accompanying Barber's Music is an earlier work by Cumming, The Stage (1990) from the CMCP collection. The Stage is comprised of 250 photos arranged in a tight grid on the wall and depicting subjects linked by their shared socio-economic status. The subjects are shown alternately laughing and grieving in between documentary "takes" while the absurdity of this tableau is further underscored by an improvised recitation based on G. B. de Mill's epic film, The Ten Commandments.

Cumming's work has been exhibited and collected throughout Canada, the US and Europe and is regularly featured in film and video festivals around the world.

Francesca Grazowski

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**The DeLeon White Gallery**
representing:
Carlos Aquirre
Doug Buis
Anagetha Dyck
Akira Komoto
Ian Lazarus
Lyndal Osborne
Arnold Shives
Nils-Udo
Paul Walde

**Exhibitions:**

**Downtown**
Peter von Tiesenhausen & Doug Buis
JUNE 19 - SEPTEMBER 4, 1999

**Yorkville**
David Gerstein: Sculpture
JULY 8 - 31, 1999

**Downtown**
555 King Street West
Toronto, Ontario
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fax: (416) 597-8466
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tel:  (416) 597-9466
fax: (416) 964-8868
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TORONTO

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Art Gallery of Ontario
April 7 - July 11

While public interest in waste management may not be a hot issue, we generally are even less aware of the art that reflects these concerns. In an effort to improve its image as a socially relevant institution, the Art Gallery of Ontario is presenting a provocative look at post-industrial consumer society by Canadian and international artists in a show that addresses contemporary issues of over-consumption, production and waste titled "Waste Management".

Christine Ritchie, AGO's assistant curator of contemporary art, suggests that "In a society based on excess and superfluous consumption, waste management has become a public ritual of moral redemption. The ways these practices are reflected in the things that artists are making now is the focus of Waste Management."

What a pity that so many Canadian artists with a long track record addressing precisely these issues are nowhere to be seen in the present show. One does not have to look far to find them. They include Doug Buis, Pam Hall, James Carl, Francine Larivée, Kevin Kelly, Monique Godin and Lawrence Paul to name but a few of the better known. Perhaps, as with the "Generation A" show of recent native art at the Museum of Civilization in Hull, the curators in Canadian institutions find it more convenient to simply bypass artists who do not have the right politically correct recipe for making user-friendly art. In this way no one will ever know, or will they?

That said, Waste Management is an interesting and surprisingly diverse art show inspired by both ends of the production and waste cycle. Included is the witty and engaging Ottawa-based Germaine Koh's Knitwork. Koh plays with the production process by recycling old sweaters she has found, unraveling the wool or acrylic and re-knitting it all together into a single continuous and quite beautiful piece of CRAFTWORK! Brooklyn-based Joe Scanlan uses the typical pro-forma IKEA bookshelf as his preferred artist's material, namely those blank white chip-board and lacquer constructions one sees in the showroom one day and in the garbage the next. Scanlan's "DIY (1998-99)" is built the IKEA way and with the same structural aplomb. Here is the ultimate generic coffin for the typical no-name consumer!

David Shrigley's sensitive ink and coloured pencil drawings on paper and photos are witty comments on all manner of issues associated with waste. In Untitled (Truth 100 mg) (1996-97), the target is the drug manufacturing industry. Words inscribed child-like underneath a red and blue coloured drawing of some drug capsule read: "I gave her the truth in capsule form and she still couldn't swallow it. (she was v. uptight.)" Contributing artists Daniel Olson, Michael Landy, Sandra Reich and Tom Friedman include everything from bubble gum to plastic drinking straws but not the kitchen sink. This is the detritus we confine weekly to the garbage bag as evidenced in Kelly Wood's Continuums of Garbage Project (1993-2003). Her photo series of her own garbage neatly contained in the Man from Glad's favourite containable material is both witty, whimsical and makes one point about waste in North America in an unemphatically simple and succinct way. These materials would have made Malerich cry! Do these artworks represent the ultimate demise of the Constructivist aesthetic or are they simply playing with the material malapropisms of consumer abundance and cultural poverty? The objects and materials of everyday consumer culture are to be found in the post-consumer and consumed guise in Waste Management. Matter abounds. Life is long, art is short!

John K. Grande

EUAAN MACDONALD

Robert Birch Gallery
241 King St. E.
Opening September 1

To celebrate their 10th anniversary, Toronto's Robert Birch Gallery will be presenting an exhibition of works by Canadian artist Euan Macdonald, who recently moved his studio to San Francisco. The show will include a soft, malleable sculptural piece of an airplane, several paintings and a series of recent drawings in pen and ink.

As Macdonald states: "Making images on a two-dimensional surface with a defined perimeter is an easy way to isolate ideas and exclude everything else."

Euan Macdonald's new work resembles city overviews, maps, and constructed or designed environments but they are far from generic. The way he uses light and space in a work is largely influenced by commercial advertising and the environment the artist works in.

Macdonald considers his drawings to be investigations into the 'here' and 'there' of city plans and shadows. Executed in a minimalist style and reduced to one or two elements and colours, Macdonald's art reveals a fascination with the modern-day urban space and environment. Whether painting, drawing, or sculpting, artistic creation becomes a site for constructing meaning.

Concurrent with the Toronto exhibition, will be a show of Euan Macdonald's recent drawings and a sculpture-installation at the Four Walls Gallery in San Francisco, opening September 3, and at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, on September 26.

John K. Grande

THEM=US

PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNEYS ACROSS OUR CULTURAL BOUNDARIES
ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM
Feb. 27 - January 2000

Comprising 100 photos by both renowned and unknown Canadian photographers Them=Us celebrates the ethnic and cultural diversity of the Canadian cultural mosaic by presenting a vast array of typical snapshot style photos. The many views of Canada's urban and rural cultural landscape include photos by Yurri Done, V. Tony Hanauer and Andrew Stawicki from the Toronto-based Photosensitive collective as well as photographers Paul Wong, Gilbert Duclos, Vincenzo Pietropaolo, and Reena Bose. Photo box installations with blown up head-shot photo portraits of young and old Canadians on the outside and distant landscape views within (visible through peepholes) give one an invisible sense of a place we know (usually a tableau of visual fragments and associations), one each of us carries within. Poetry and prose excerpts by Canadian writers Tomson Highway, Noel Audet, Timothy Findley, Joy Kogawa, Marie-Claire Blais, Nino Rucci, Margaret Atwood and Anne Michaels accompany the photo images. A quote by E. C. writer and poet Susan Musgrave reads: "Let's not invent any more weapons. Let's grope in the fog wearing coarse wool underwear instead. Let's be kind to one another and let's write any more hate poetry. Let's pretend we're in love with one another. You go first." Another from Timothy Findley is more statement than interpretation: "Like trib-
P_env oxic MUS EUM S

Art Gallery of Ontario
317 Dundas W.
July 25 - September 12

Some of the most influential and
important masterworks from the
Renaissance and Baroque periods
will be on view. "The Old Masters: Great
Renaissance and Baroque Paintings
from the Capitoline Museum, Rome" features
works by Caravaggio, Dosso Dossi, Guercino,
Guido Reni and Vezzazquez. Many of these works
have never before been exhibited outside
of Rome and none have ever been
exhibited in Canada.

Art Gallery of North York
(MOCA)
5040 Yonge St.
until July 4

The Art Gallery of North York is
changing its name to the Museum of
Contemporary Art. The Gallery will
be highlighting photographic and
photobased work from its permanent
collection. Featured artists
include Mark Gomes, Christos
Dikeakos, John Massey, Micah
Lexter and Richard Kaplan.

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery
7 Hart House Circle
June 24 - July 22

\textit{Hymn to the Sun: Jack Bush} will highlight
the years from 1946 to 1955. This was a time of profound
psychological and spiritual struggle, when Bush sought the help of
Dr. J. Allan Walters, a noted
neurologist and psychiatrist. In light of
previously unreleased personal diaries,
letters to Clement Greenberg and ad-
titional never-before-seen paint-ingles,
watercolours and drawings, this exhibit-
ion re-examines a critical period
in Jack Bush’s career, which points
to his later development.

The Gallery’s programming con-
tinues with selections from the He-
en Hand Collection of Native Art
(July 29 to August 26) and with
works from its permanent collection
(September 7 to October 5.)

PowerPlant
231 Queen’s Quay W.
June 26 - September 6

The new director of the Power-
Plant, Marc Mayer, dons his curator’s
hat with two exhibitions: ‘The Hand’
an international group show celebr-
ating the hand as a popular sub-
ject for many of today’s best-known
artists; and ‘Jessica Stockholder’ ex-
amining how the artist has built upon
various traditions of abstraction to
create a body of work that is revolu-
tionary in its formal implications.

YORKVILLE

FROM THE STUDIO

COMMFFATIVE PAINTINGS BY

DOUGAL GRAHAM AND SAWAN

YAWNGHWE

Artscore
33 Hazelton Ave.
June 5 - June 25

Graham and Yawngwe’s collaborative
paintings take their cue from
the contemporary culture in which
the artists are immersed. Images
from fashion magazines, advertising,
television and film are appropriated
in a way, combined with elements of ur-
banculture or, increasingly, justi-
p posed with subtle references to his-
istorically recognized paintings
Collaborative Paintings.

Also at Artscore:

NEW DRAWINGS BY EVE
LEADER, PIPPA CHERNAYSKY
& LEE MOURN PELLI
June 26 - July 24

PAINTINGS BY MICHAEL
ADAMSON AND AN INSTALLA-
TION BY MATTHEW VAREY
July 31 - Aug. 28

LAND TAKES

Edward Day Gallery
253 Ontario St Kingston
33 Hazelton Ave Toronto
July 31 to August 29

Five contemporary Toronto
artists exhibit their \textit{Takers} or Land-
scapes: Stephen Andrews, Eshrat Er-
fanian, Katherine Harvey, Douglas
Walsh, Melanie Zanker.
ALAN WYLIE  
Gallery Gevik  
12 Hazelton Ave.  
June 5 to July 2

These latest, brilliantly coloured canvases earned the artist the Gold Medal at the 1998 Federation of Canadian Artists Medal Exhibition.

July and August features gallery artists.

FORESTHILL  
PETER BYRNE  
Lonsdale Gallery  
333 Lonsdale Rd.  
June 3 to June 26.

The Lonsdale Gallery is focused on contemporary Canadian Art featuring exhibitions which encompass work in all media including sculpture, painting, works on paper and contemporary photography. The Lonsdale Gallery exhibits the work of senior, established artists as well as showcasing the emerging artist. Work by emerging artist, Peter Byrne, is on view this summer.

ALSO AT LONSDALE GALLERY:  
THE COLLECTIVE, A THREE-PERSON EXHIBITION WHICH HIGHLIGHTS WORKS BY JOE FLEMING, YECHEL GAGNON, AND JAY WILSON.

DOWNTOWN  
PRIVATE DRAWINGS SHOW  
Gallery artists  
Bau-Xi Gallery  
340 Dundas  
June 30 - July 17

This exhibition, built upon last year's "Working Drawings Show", features works that are private, in the sense of the subject being something that the artists wouldn't normally exhibit.

MONOPRINTS AND MONOTYPES  
July 21 to August 21

The focus is on collaborations between printmakers and non-printmaking artists.

Leslie Pool and Shane West finish up the Gallery's summer programming with an exhibition of paintings.

HEAVEN AND EARTH  
SCULPTURES AND PAINTINGS BY  
GORDON BELL AND JANET MURRAY  
BUS Gallery  
July 8 - 31

McNaughton's paintings grace Bus's main gallery, while KELLY PALMER uses the Hallway and BRIAN LYALL the Salon. Sept. 2 - 25

TRAVELLING LIGHT (1886-1998)  
Jane Corkin Gallery  
179 John St.  
July 8 - September 11

The Jane Corkin Gallery offers a group exhibition highlighting photographs on the theme of transportation. Artists on view include Bourdeau, Bourke-White, Doisneau, Feininger, Hine, Kertesz and Stieglitz.

Look for their exhibition of Serge Clement which opens on September 23.

DOUG BUls  
Biosquare, 1993  
Small furnished room, mechanism, maple seeds  
61 x 66 x 33 cm

DOUG BUls AND PETER VON TIESENHAUSEN  
DeLeon White Gallery  
455 King W. and 33, Prince Arthur Ave., Yorkville  
June 12 - September 11

Now work by Buis and von Tiesenhausen is offered in two solo shows at the downtown location of the DeLeon White Gallery. Doug Buis offers kinetic sculptures while von Tiesenhausen creates an installation using paintings and sculptures.

On September 18 the Gallery opens a new exhibition by seminal mixed media artist, CARL BEAM.

Lee Goreas  
June

Michael Buckland  
July

Euan Macdonald  
September

Sydney Drum  
October

Richard Storms  
November

Robert Birch Gallery  
241 King Street East,  
Toronto, Canada M5A 1J9  
Telephone: (416) 955-9410  
Fax: (416) 955-9409

10th Anniversary
GALLERY

DISTRICT

APPEL, DANBY, DEMARCHE, ETROG, GAUCHER, GEDDEN, SHERMAN, TAPIES, TOWN

Gallery Moos
622 Richmond St. W.

Summer '99

This gallery will be drawing upon its strong contingent of senior, internationally known artists. During the summer Gallery Moos will be exhibiting sculptures, paintings and works on paper by artists such as Karel Appel, Ken Danby, Josue Demarche, Sorel Etrog, Yves Gaucher, Dennis Gedden, Tony Scherman, Antoni Tapies and Harold Town.

ASTRONOMICAL AND SPACE EXPLORATION PICTURES

Stephen Bulger Gallery
700 Queen W.

June 12 - July 17

Visitors to the Stephen Bulger Gallery will have an opportunity to view the world as we know it on a macro and a micro-cosmic scale. "Astronomical and Space Exploration Pictures" brings together photographic works by Alan Bean, Loewy and Puisseaux, David Malin and NASA. A micro-version in photography of Cosmos.

LIFELINES

Elizabeth Siegfried
July 22 - August 31

The photos in this exhibition examine the cycle of life, the passage of time, and the search for peace and meaning in one's life.

CAMBODIA, THE ANGKOR SERIES

KENRO IZU

Tatar Alexander Gallery
173 King St. E.

until July 6

"Cambodia, The Angkor Series" highlights photographic work by New York-based photographer Kenro Izu. In this exhibition Izu documents the ancient temples of Angkor Wat (Cambodia) along with the forest which is slowly reclaiming these edifices.

401 RICHMOND

A SPACE

MIGRANTE: ARTISTS OF FILIPINO "HERITAGE"

June 26 - July 31

This exhibition was developed from a larger project organized by Winnipeg's Plug In Gallery. Works exhibited address issues of history, borders, memory, invention and loss. There is also an examination of the links which remain between refugees, exiles and their homelands. Artists include Santiago Bose, Brenda Fajardo, Paul Robles, M. Ligaya Alcuitas, Mark Justiniani and Melanie Liuwaan Aguila.

GALLERY 44

"PROOF 6"

Summer '99

The sixth annual exhibition of work by photographic artists in the early stages of their careers, this year features work by Shinobu Akimoto, Terry Pidsadny, Andrew Wright and Camille Zakharia.

YYZ

This gallery space offers viewers summer programming with a lighter, more irreverent tone to it. "Joyriding in the land time forgot" is an installation by Kit and runs at the centre until June 19. It is accompanied by a selection of videos exhibited under the title "Si vous ne devez pas défendre quelque chose, vous vous laissez prendre à n'importe quoi/ If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything!". The exhibition was curated by Milada Kovacova and includes videos by Eve Lucie Bourque, Patrice Duhamel, Nikki Forrest, Rodriguez Jean and Yudi Sewraj.

From June 26 to July 17, Tom of Finland exhibits a selection of drawings, while Maryrose Mendoza creates a site-specific installation and a sampling of Marlon Fuentes videos are on view July 21 to August 14.

80 SPADINA

Gallery TPW
June 10 - July 10

Photos by Rose Kallal and Normand Rajotte, curated by Kathleen Vaughan and Marsha Wineman.

Moore Gallery

The Moore Gallery's mandate is to encourage the promotion and distribution of master works - paintings, works on paper and sculpture - by contemporary Canadian artists. It has focused on Canadian Art History, specializing in the art created from the "Les Automatistes" of Quebec to the Painters Eleven of Ontario.

ROBERT HENDRICK

June 5 - 26

MILLY RISTVEDT

July 3 - 24

MICHELE DROUIN

September 11 - October 2

Virginia MacDonnell Eichhorn
CALGARY
MORE AND MORE OF LESS AND LESS

Two years ago, artist Jennifer Dickson interviewed Diaz Nemirow, curator of contemporary art at the National Gallery of Canada. Asked about her views on printmaking and the Gallery's policy on collecting, Nemirow summed up our aesthetic era: "Since the seventies there has been a shift in our collecting policy. Our collecting is issue-driven. Ideas are paramount."

It is as if in finally articulating what everyone knows, the institution was unconsciously challenging artists to move on. If idea driven art is the new academy then perhaps a re treating from theory, social meaning, politics, and irony is in order.

A symptom of this reversed course has been the proliferation of ostensibly "dumb" and "cutie" art exhibitions (for example: Damien Moppett and the "Bonus" artists from Vancouver; the Art Lodge in Winnepeg; Calgary's Jeff Nachigall, Newzones Feb. 18-March 31), a renewal of landscape, and return to abstraction.

On the cool and beautiful side of this shift into silence is the reawakening of minimalist abstraction. "Al­ nism Monochrome," at Paul Kuhn's Gallery (July 10-Sept. 30) includes works by minimalists and striplists, many who have been at it for years:

Guido Molinari, David McWilliam, Jean McEwen, Rene Pierre Alain, and John Howard. Of special interest are the works of Reg Hamilton who lately has been making subtle paintings of mirrors. Also watch for paintings by Kuhn himself.

Atmospheric abstractions coalesce into evocative landscapes in the beeswax oil paintings of Hiro Yokose. Born in Nagasaki, now living in New York, Yokose controls his sensual surfaces to create moods that hover between the calm and sublime. These small, luminous, minimal and ambiguous paintings are more entrancing than those with obvious trees lurking beneath the milky surface. Hiro Yokose is part of "Introductions," a group show at Newzones (July 17-August 2).

Also in that exhibition are Suzan Dionne's (New York) Struggle Con­ tagion Series mixed media works. Derived from microscopic forms, these often bulging, nearly mono chromatic abstractions on canvas capture the experience of looking either through a microscope or telescope. They are sensual and creepy at once. Originally from Alberta, now living in Montreal, Cameron Skene sets his paintings of unpolluted industrial buildings next to metal panels. The steel echoes the subject in these formal yet almost nostalgic works.

In a completely different vein.

The most important museum show of the summer is Powerful Images: Portrayals of Native America, at the Glenbow (July 3-Sept. 26). Calgary is the only Canadian stop for this huge exhibition (assembled by the Museums West Consortium) examining representations of First Nations People over the past two hundred years. However, this is not just a collection of white perceptions. A large component of the show contains historical and contemporary reflections by First Nations artists. In addition, there are video and audio excerpts from oral histories.

Glenbow has an excellent policy of accompanying imported shows with complimentary exhibitions from their collection. Powerful Images is supported by paintings by Alberta Ojibwa artist Norval Morrisseau; a selection of Contemporary First Na­ tion Art from the Glenbow collection, and a show of Moccasins. For a vir­ tual tour of Powerful Images, check out www.museumswest.org.

Virginia Christopherson is known for showing ceramics in a fine art context. This Summer (July 24-29) and in August by appointment she introduces Calgary to the work of Kenzou Terada and Yasuo Terada, a father and son team from Seto, Japan. In addition, Christopher is in­ cluding work by Canadian ceramics pioneer, Luke Lindoe (87).
VANCOUVER

SYLVIA TAIT "SPLIT RUN"
Bau-Xi Gallery
June 12 - 26

At first sight, the new paintings of senior Canadian artist Sylvia Tait evoke memories of Motherwell's floating oval shapes and Rothko's color fields. With their pastiches of ovoids and stripes, and their strong, saturated bands of color, they present themselves as conscious inheritors of such abstract legacies. A closer study, however, reveals that their mandala-like symbols and soft compartmentalized shapes are wrapped in protective layers, and that the focus of Tait's work is actually the play on the edges themselves: the borders of the dualities.

Her work is particularly strong when her rhythmic geometries fracture into ironic pictograms, as in DiHirtures and Arrivals. Then, while the surfaces continue to remain well-seated on the two-dimensional plane, a teasing syncopation of strayling and clustering object/shape/forms swim freely by. In the banded paintings, grooved cells of tone and hue collapse like chimney bricks, lending an animata not always found in more formal abstraction.

CHANTAL ROUSSEAU
"THE CANADIAN DISASTER SERIES"
Third Avenue Gallery
June 4 - 26

Chantal Rousseau is an artist to watch carefully over the next few years. With a 1994 diploma from Dawson College in Montreal under her belt, she has had three solo exhibitions and participated in 18 group shows since graduating from the Emily Carr Institute in Vancouver in 1997. Sheer numbers alone do not account for her projected success. Her oil paintings, on relatively small panels, are extremely provocative and unforgettable. Rousseau has the technical capability and the imaginative capacity to pull off believable, life-like scenes which are only too likely to happen in real life. Whether portraying natural or human-made disasters, she captures in her paintings that transitional moment between imminence and outcome, offering a relentless series of emotional charges rather than catharsis.

CAMERON SKENE "STORIES"
Wittmann Lawrence Gallery
June 2-26

In his previous series of sculptures, Montreal artist Cameron Skene explored the cultural value of industrial buildings, located throughout Vancouver, which have become surrounded and contextually displaced by post-modern developments.

In this new series, he creates views of the Habitat housing complex framed in fibreglass pillows that are made to look like lead. The paradox of the weightlessness of the material and the illusion of heaviness parallels Skene's themes of urban chronology and change, as he correlates the 19th century quest for modernization and indus­trialization with a 20th century search for meaning in that which is transient and disposable.

Throughout July, The Wittmann Lawrence Gallery is showing the popular contemporary folk art of Vancouver sculptor Todd Spicer. Made from durable wood and plexiglass, and incorporating elements that encourage viewer interaction, his pieces portray cool and irreverent personas.

Mia Johnson

FACE TO FACE: FOUR CENTURIES OF PORTRAITS
Vancouver Art Gallery
June 19 to September 26

The face tells all, reflecting the soul in its infinite mystery and glory. Exchange lingering glances with kings, moguls and movie stars at this major exhibition of original art, tracing 400 years of the human image from Renaissance paintings to 20th century photography.

Revelations of power, prestige and privilege will emerge from the giant in the eyes, the tilt of the head, or the sway of the back. Each individual captured on canvas or film reflects an era's perception of race, sexuality, culture, gender through works of art by Franz Hals, Titian, Cezanne, Renoir, Degas, Warhol, Hockney, Picasso, Matisse, Goya, Lucian Freud, Gaudier-Brzeska, Cindy Sherman, Gilbert and George, Yousuf Karsh, and Atget to name just a very few.

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Dale Campbell Tahitian/Tlingit The Woman who Married the Frog

VISION KEEPERS: CAMPBELL, MORGAN, POINT AND RORICK
NORTHWEST-COAST CULTURE THROUGH THE EYES OF WOMEN ARTISTS.
Alcheringa Gallery, July 29-August 19

Since the mid-to-late seventies there has been a tremendous resurgence of Native ceremonial art and crafts production. Vision Keepers: Campbell, Morgan, Point and Rorick, focusses on four women artists from varied traditions and cultural backgrounds who have achieved a high degree of proficiency in their respective media. For the most part, they've studied traditional methods with the elders and teachers who've served as stewards of these ancient art forms and practices. Isabel Rorick lived her first twenty-five years in her ancestral village of Old Masset on Haida Gwaii. Weaving has been refined and handed down by the women of her family for generations.

Like her mother before her, Rorick studied with her grandmother, Selina Peratrovich, travelling to visit her in Ketchikan, Alaska. Similarly, each year she travels to Haida Gwaii to collect traditional weaving materials such as spruce roots, maling certain they are harvested ethically and with high spiritual and aesthetic consciousness.

"It takes discipline to be a good weaver," says Rorick. "Right from the beginning when you dig the roots, you can't just rip them out of the ground, you have to follow them carefully because they cross one another in different directions. If you just rip them out of the ground, you damage a lot of other roots, and that shows disrespect for the tree... When you're doing digging an area, it's important that the moss and earth is put back in place the best you can. It shows respect to the trees. It is also important to thank the trees for the roots. Some people think it's funny to do that, but the trees are living things, and they have spirits too..."

Rorick also makes ceremonial, or work-style hats, a skill she learned from her mother. There are many different types of Haida hats for different purposes, ranging from very elaborate headdresses to practical protection from the elements.

Weaving wasn't always the only artistic choice for Rorick. "I decided I'd like to get back into carving," she says. "Nonny ('grandmother' in Haida) came to see me at the carving shed. She said, 'you have to make up your mind what you're going to do carve or weave? If you're going to weave, come with me right now.' I put down what I was doing, I went with her and never looked back."

I'd say Nonny was right. Rorick has had work purchased by the Massay Foundation (which has ended up in the Canadian Museum of Civilization), as well as many successful shows, commissions and interest among private collectors.

Susan A. Point produces large-scale public art in media which includes glass, wood, stainless steel and concrete. Her works are represented in private and corporate collections in over twenty countries around the world. She addresses non-traditional issues through her contemporary synthesis of traditional Coast Salish art.

"I still incorporate my ancestral design elements into my work to keep it uniquely Salish," explains the artist. "Sometimes I address issues of gender conditioning as well as social and economic conditions."

Tahitian/Tlingit traditions (Wolf clan) are represented by Dale Campbell, who has produced totem poles, masks and traditional designs for touring exhibitions, as well as for public and civic art installations. She has work in private collections in Europe, North America and Japan, and also works in silver engraving. For this show she has created a resplendent narrative mask called, The Woman Who Married the Frog.

Valerie Morgan, the fourth artist in this exhibition, is of the Kwaduk/Giksan culture from Alert Bay, B.C. She studied at the Kitamaat School of Northwest Coast Indian Art. Adopted into the Frog clan in Kitwanga, she also specialises in narrative masks.

Yvonne Owens

VICTORIA

ART REPORTS

VISION KEEPERS: CAMPBELL, MORGAN, POINT AND RORICK
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June 1999
Merrell Eve Gerber, Margaret Lawther, Tessa Windt - before one's very eyes
monograph with text by Pali Tozer

July/August 1999
To Remain at a Distance - Vancouver Island & Gulf Islands group exhibition
monograph with text by Don Gill

September 1999
AntiMatter - Film & Video Festival of Independent Productions
BRITAIN, THE MILLENIUM DESTINATION

Marking the millennium with cultural projects and new attractions, in a renaissance set to transform its cultural landscape, Britain is building visitor attractions and environmental infrastructure on a scale not witnessed since Victorian times.

ARTS, CULTURAL AND HERITAGE ATTRACTIONS

Several innovative museums are set to open for the millennium. The addition of the Dean Gallery, a refurbished building originally designed as an orphanage in 1833, has doubled the size of the Museum of Modern Art in Edinburgh, while Dundee Contemporary Arts has opened an entirely new state of the art gallery and University of Dundee Visual Research Centre in spring 1999.

The Tate Gallery of Modern Art, London, England will include a gallery devoted to Victorian times.

In Northumbria, the new waterfront complex in Salford is being converted into the Buxton Museum of Modern Art in the heart of Bristol including a refurbished Arnolfini Museum of Modern Art in spring 1999.

In Scotland, the Historic Scottish Cities Trust is a four phase project that culminates at the end of the millennium. The Royal Exchange, Edinburgh doubles the size of the Museum of Modern Art in Edinburgh, while the British Council and Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs are planning to open the 1999;

GLASGOW 1999

U.K. MILLENIUM CITY OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

In the heart of the city, The Lighthouse, Scotland's Centre for Architecture and Design, opens in June 1999 with two main exhibition galleries. Realised by converting an 1893 public building by the renowned architect, Rennie Macintosh, the museum explores architecture and design in engaging and challenging ways. Tours are both physical and virtual, utilising the Lighthouse's commitment to new technology. The Lighthouse has established links with similar institutions such as the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal.

"At Bristol" is a landmark project to create a cultural quarter in the heart of Bristol including a refurbished Arnolfini Museum of Modern Art in 2000. In Northumbria, the Baltic Flour Mills at Gateshead outside Newcastle is being converted into a contemporary visual art centre. A new waterfront complex in Salford will include a gallery devoted to 20th century artist L.S. Lowry.

The Tate Gallery of Modern Art, in a remarkable combination of old and new, is being built upon the original Bankside Power Station and linked to St. Paul's by the Millennium Pedestrian Bridge (the first new bridge in Central London for more than 100 years), and is scheduled to open in June 2000. Taking its place amongst the great modern art museums, it will concentrate on international art since 1900, enabling the Tate's Millbank site to become The National Gallery of British Art since 1500, and display most of its collection.


Vertigo: The strange new world of the contemporary city, looks at ten of the most significant building projects in the world revealing the changing nature of the city including: the conversion of Bankside Power Station into the new Tate Museum of Modern Art, London; Berlin 1999; Hong Kong: Chek Lap Kok airport; Lake Las Vegas Resort; Goffa Housing, Japan; Shanghai World Financial Centre; The Millenium Dome; Landschaftspark, Duisberg-Nord; and Ontario Mills Centre, California. At the Fruitmarket; a 208 pp. catalogue available from the British Library: ISBN 185669 1535.

Heisenberg is a collaboration between Matt Baker and Dan Dubowitz that combines architecture photo imagery and sculpture focusing on wastelands, developing debate about redevelopment appropriate to the latter character of the site, Journeys is a four phase project that culminates at the end of 2000 reflecting on the evolution of Scottish cities at the turn of the millenium.

Acknowledgement: The British Council and Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs

As we approach the year 2000, it appears Britain is enjoying a special mood of optimism and expectation.

Michael J. Molter