

THE PEARL IS A JEWEL

EXPLORE THE FINE ARTS MUSEUM OF SPRING

Everyone knows the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. It's the city's crown jewel, one of the finest and largest collecting museums in the country, and is in the middle of a vast campus building campaign.

But did you know there's another Museum of Fine Arts in the Houston area? The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts, located in Spring, has a goal of being **"the leading fine arts museum in Greater Houston, outside of the museum district."** Housed in the former Barbara Bush Public Library, the museum, which is free to all, focuses on education and community with a variety of first-rate exhibits that have never been displayed in public.

Who was Pearl Fincher, you ask? She and her late husband Fred, along with their nine children, owned a chain of 15 automotive-related businesses in the Northwest Houston area at the time of his death in 1996 (they started with the Fred Fincher used car lot in 1959). A longtime trustee of many cultural and community institutions, Pearl seized upon the opportunity of converting the former library building into an art museum. It opened in March 2008, and Pearl died in 2010.

"The Pearl" is a non-collecting institution, borrowing from public and private collections. **One fascinating current exhibit is *Dignity in Labor: Texas Regionalism from the Bobbie and John L. Nau Collection***, which captures a pivotal moment in Texas' cultural history. Prevalent during the 1930s, Texas Regionalism was an American realist modern art movement wherein artists depicted rural life and landscape scenery of the Lone Star State. This group of artists captured the pure essence of Texas — its landscapes and people — at a defining moment as Texans suffered through the Dust Bowl and the Great Depression.

The museum's home is leased to them by the county, and it was renovated through private funds, grants and gifts. More than 3,000 donors have given to the museum to date. To support this cultural community asset, or to learn more about "The Pearl," visit www.pearlffa.org.

By Tim Maloney | Photography by FAMG





Reviews



Oleg Dou, *Narcissus in Love*, 2014, C Print face mounted with Acrylic, 63 x 47 inches

OLEG DOU DEBORAH COLTON GALLERY

OLEG DOU IS CELEBRATED INTERNATIONALLY not only for his technique but also for his staggeringly distinctive and fantastically peculiar—vision. His process combines photographs, real world objects, and photo manipulations in Adobe Photoshop. And the resulting work is truly transformative.

Oleg Dou transforms photographic images of human faces, manipulating them with computer software to produce stylized features and airbrushed skin. Initially inspired by a 19th-century tradition of capturing child funeral portraits, for which the body would be dressed in costume and prepared in intricate detail, Dou is interested in producing images that are both alluring and unsettling. "I am looking for something bordering between the beautiful and the repulsive, living and dead," he has said. "I want to attain the feeling of presence one can get when walking by a plastic manikin..."

Oleg is interested in the areas where beauty and sadness come into conflict—he has said that he wants his work to be something "bordering between the beautiful and the repulsive, living and dead." This will be the artist's first solo exhibition in Houston. *Exhibition in view during FotoFest throughout March 2016.*



Sigrid Sandström *Untitled*, Acrylic on polyester canvas, 76" x 60"

SIGRID SANDSTRÖM INMAN GALLERY

SIGRID SANDSTRÖM'S PRACTICE IS ENGAGED with reflecting on the relationship between the painter, the painting and the viewer. Where, when and why lies focus? Sandström works primarily with painting, through which she has been exploring site as a concept as well as emotional experience. Over time, the depicted large-scale, barren and uninhabited landscapes have become more abstract. Her paintings fail to conform into categories, and continuously explores the ontological conditions and limitations of painting. The indeterminate, or unnamable, plays a central role both in Sandström's investigative work process and in relation to the viewer.

Sigrid Sandström was born in Stockholm, Sweden where she teaches Fine Arts at the Royal Institute of Art. She has exhibited in New York, Los Angeles, Houston and her native Sweden. Sandström's work was included in the Contemporary Arts Museum of Houston's 25th anniversary exhibition, *Perspectives @ 25*. Her first solo museum exhibition, *Ginnungagap: Recent Works by Sigrid Sandstrom*, was mounted in 2006 at the Frye Art Museum in Seattle, Washington. She is represented in Houston by Inman Gallery who recently featured her work in *Untitled*, the international art fair held last December in Miami Beach.

3/18-4/16



FIPPING OUT
A member of
Koubi's all-male
dance troupe

LA COMPAGNIE HERVÉ KOUBI

Famous French choreographer Hervé Koubi's all-male troupe features 12 African dancers combining martial arts, urban and contemporary dance, and capoeira—a Brazilian acrobatic tradition similar to today's breakdancing. 8pm. Tickets \$23. *Wortham Center, spahouston.org*

spoon full of sugar—and the right ticket—makes the medicine go down. See website for schedule. Tickets \$89. *Hobby Center, tuts.com*

3/9

Fetty Wap

This New Jersey rapper's first hit, "Trap Queen," was the sleeper hit of last summer, reaching No. 2 on the Billboard charts in May 2015. 7pm. Tickets \$35. *House of Blues, houseofblues.com*

3/10

Passion for Fashion

Houston Community College's annual luncheon celebrates rising young fashion talents. *Project Runway*-winning designer Christian Siriano makes an appearance this year. 11:30am. Tickets \$250. *River Oaks Country Club, hccfoundation.org*

3/12

Mozart's Clarinet Concerto

Antoine Plante directs the Mercury Baroque Orchestra in this production of Wolfgang's famous concerto. The group also performs the master's *Symphony No. 39*. 8pm. Tickets \$19. *Wortham Center, mercuryhouston.org*

3/12-4/23

Broken Mirror

Russian artist Oleg Dou debuts his newest photographs, which resemble oil painting. Several of the pieces are portraits that verge on the surreal. Opening reception March 12 at 6pm. *Deborah Colton Gallery, deborahcolton.com*

3/18

The Piano Guys

YouTube sensations

John Schmidt, Steven Sharp Nelson, Paul Anderson and Al van der Beek cover popular songs and reinvent classical music on the piano and cello. Their mashup of Adele and Mozart swept the Internet in February. 7:30pm. Tickets \$35. *Revention Music Center, livenation.com*

3/18-4/16

Dobrostan

Poland-based photographer Natalia Wiernik opens her FotoFest exhibit with works that juxtapose humans and objects through patterns and textures. Opening reception March 18 at 6pm. *Anya Tish Gallery, anyatishgallery.com*

3/19-4/17

Detroit '67

The Ensemble Theatre produces this play about dreams and racial

tensions in the Motown era. See website for schedule. Tickets \$23. *The Ensemble Theatre, ensemblehouston.com*

3/21

Santigold

The indie-electronica chanteuse released her third album, 99¢, last month. She kicks off her world tour here in H-Town, performing her latest single "Who Be Lovin' Me" along with originals like "Creator" and "L.E.S. Artistes." 7pm. Tickets \$28. *House of Blues, houseofblues.com*

3/24-3/26

Dance Salad

This three-day dance

festival showcases local talent as well as acts from across the globe. In addition to a bevy of performances, several renowned choreographers participate in a forum at the MFA March 23 at 7pm. See website for schedule. Tickets \$25. *Wortham Center, dancesalad.org*

3/30-4/3

Shell Houston Open

Jason Spieth and other pros tee off at this golf tournament. See website for schedule. Tickets \$100. VIP packages \$595. *Golf Club of Houston, shellhoustonopen.com*

CABARET

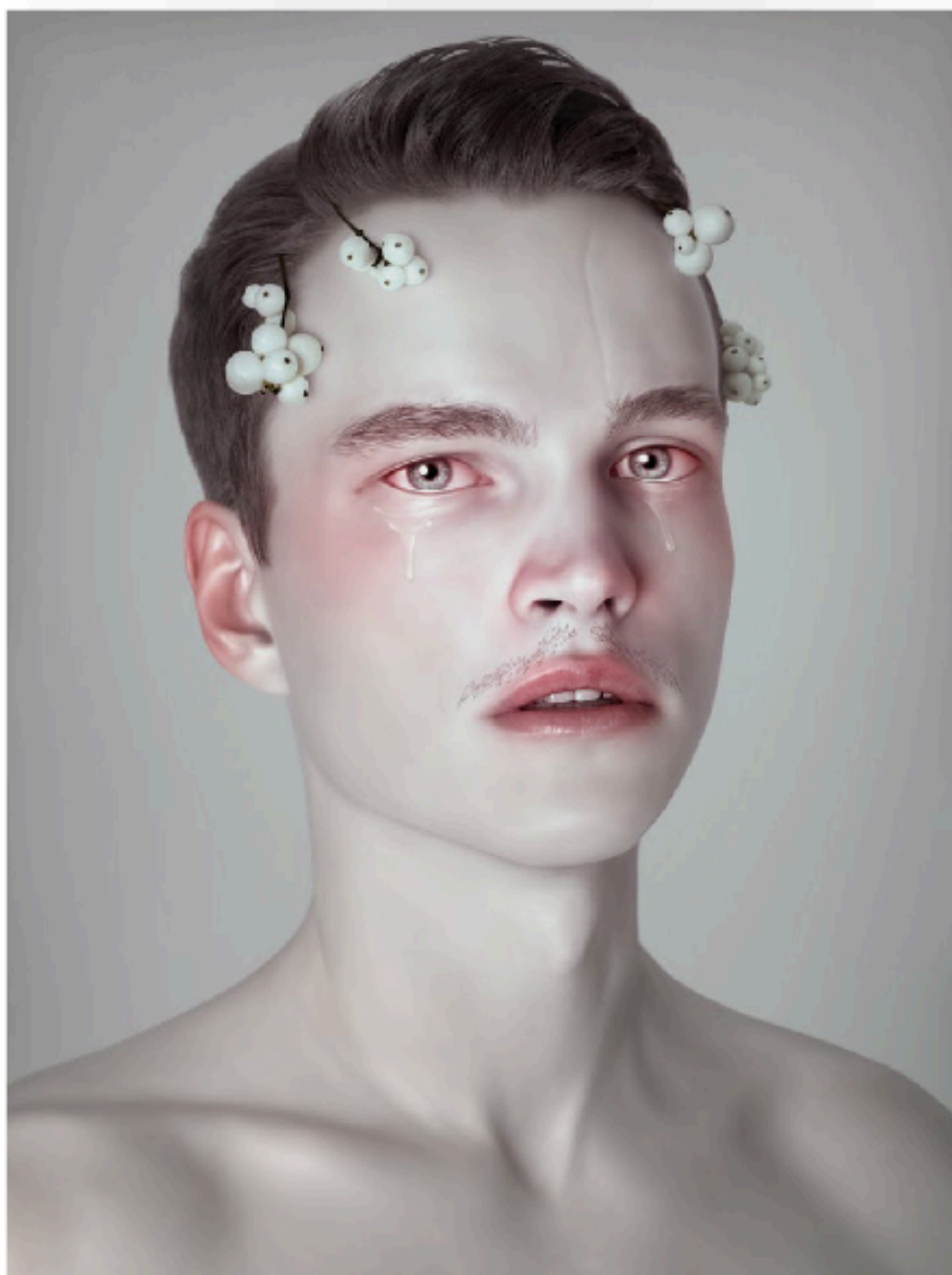
The bawdy Tony-winning musical tours the country as part of its 50th anniversary celebration. Don't miss the H-Town stop for Broadway classics like "Willkommen" and "Maybe This Time." See website for schedule. Tickets \$25. *Hobby Center, thehobbycenter.org*

3/22-27

SHOW GIRLS

Cabaret celebrates its 50th anniversary.





*Narcissus in
Love, C-print
face mounted
with acrylic,
Edition 1/8,
63 x 47 inches*

Oleg Dou

AT DEBORAH COLTON GALLERY

Bordering between the beautiful and repulsive, artist Oleg Dou is celebrated internationally not only for his technique but also for his utterly distinctive and uniquely peculiar vision.

Sergei,
from Sketches
series 2010,
C-print face
mounted with
acrylic, Edition
6/8, 47 x 47
inches



Broken Mirror, is a solo exhibition of multimedia works by Russian artist, Oleg Dou. This exhibition is the international debut of his newest body of work which, reminiscent of previous collections, explores the notion of exposing the inner self that hides behind our "social masks." Oleg is known for his interest in human individuality and self-expression and attempts to solve the problem of identity in our times. The exhibition will open on Saturday, March 12th, 2016 through April 23rd, 2016 at Deborah Colton Gallery in Houston, TX.

In Broken Mirror, Oleg Dou reflects on the instability of world order and the clashing of civilizations. Civilizations which are each losing identity or finding alternative identities through the constant breakdown and rebuilding of their structures. Oleg believes these processes directly effect our reality and will create a world where in some ways we will be closer and in other ways further away from our true human nature. Through this exhibition he also explores his own identity and personal journey.

Oleg Dou has won countless International awards and has been exhibited in many major institutions worldwide including the Ping-yao International Photography Festival (China), the Seoul Photo Festival (Korea), the FotoFestival Naarden (Netherlands) and the International Photography Awards. His works have exhibited twice

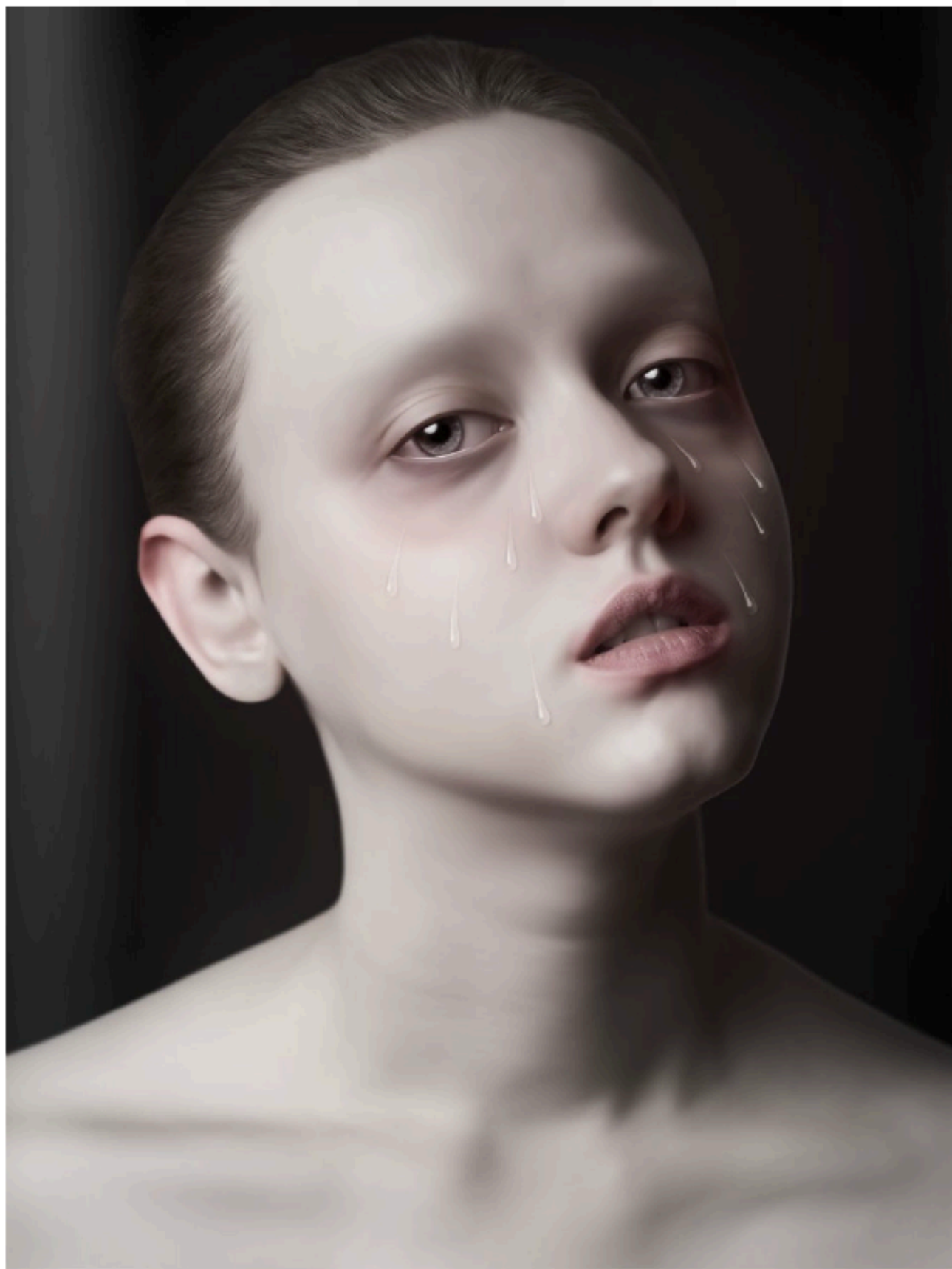
at the Kandinsky Prize (2007 and 2008), which is the main contemporary art exhibition award in Moscow. Oleg Dou was also rated number 3 under 30 world wide according to Art Market Insight, in their "30 under 30 Up and Coming Photographers." His artistic career continues to thrive as his work is consistently placed in prestigious public and private collections throughout the world.

"Oleg Dou's works start with a bare beautiful 'naked' face. Taking often months to create each work, these faces take on a different presence to a world beyond what we have known, to reveal what is inside us in often the deepest depths of our souls. Sometimes revealing our inner most fears and sadness, sometimes looking into the future to centuries beyond us, his work is moving and compelling and touches all viewers deeply. In our often superficial world where outer beauty and masking our true feelings is the custom, Oleg Dou's creations are original, refreshingly and evolved." -Deborah M. Colton

For more information:
Deborah Colton Gallery
2445 North Blvd. Houston, TX 77098
(713)869-5151



Pregnant, C-print face mounted with acrylic, Edition 1/8, 83 x 47 inches



9 tears, C-print face mounted with acrylic, Edition 1/5, 63 x 47 inches