

The Talented Ten – Part I Houston Artists to Inspire One's Soul

November 21st, 2009 to December 12th, 2009.

Deborah Colton Gallery is pleased to present *The Talented Ten-Part- I...Houston Artists to Inspire One's Soul*. This is the first curated show by the gallery's new director, Lester Marks.

For Lester Mark's first show at the Deborah Colton Gallery, he wanted to showcase ten of the most creative artists in Houston. Houston is Lester's hometown, the location of the DCG, and the nexus of one of the most vibrant art communities in the United States. While he is not sure that a particular city can generate particular art, Lester does believe that Houston is somewhat unique. Houston is the only major U.S. metropolis without zoning, and the art here seems to take a cue from that particularity. The art expresses itself in a direction of boundless freedom, and in the case of THIS particular exhibition, Lester has searched out art that expresses a boundless freedom and inspiration of the SOUL. Art that has beauty, wonder, mystery, and visual poetry, that is Lester's definition of inspirational art.

THE TALENTED TEN

Mequitta Ahuja—2008 Inaugural Recipient of the Meredith and Cornelia Long Prize for Artistic Excellence, Museum of Fine Arts-Houston, and a graduate of the Glassell Core Residency Program, Houston. Mequitta recently relocated to New York, as she was the recipient of the coveted 12 month residency award and \$30,000 fellowship, given by the Studio Museum in Harlem.

Nathaniel Donnett—A Houston native, was nominated this year for a Louis Comfort Tiffany Award. Nathaniel's two solo shows this year were shown at Lawndale and Project Row Houses, both the stellar reviews.

Trenton Doyle Hancock—Born in Paris, Texas, Trenton, who lives in Houston, had his art exhibited in back to back Whitney Museum Biennials, becoming the youngest artist in the history of the Biennial to be featured in the prestigious exhibition.

Joseph Havel—Renowned artist and Director of the Glassell Core Residency Program at the Museum of Fine Arts-Houston, his work has been exhibited, and in the finest collections, through out the U.S. and Europe, both public and private.

Sharon Kopriva—One of Houston's most beloved and widely known artists, her compelling and unique oeuvre has been a part of our city's visual art scene since 19885. Sharon has exhibited at venues worldwide, including a solo show at Houston's prestigious Menil Collection.

Donald Lipski—One of the most gifted practitioners of the art of Assemblage, this 'New York' artist lived and worked created art in Houston in the early 90's. He has been exhibited in hundreds of museum shows in the U.S. and abroad, and he is highly regarded for his major public exhibitions on permanent view.

Michael Meazell—A life-long Houstonian, and the founder and director of the Arts Initiative Houston, Michael received a scholarship to the Glassell School of Art at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. His work perfectly combines elements of outsider art with digital technologies that are changing our culture's idea of mixed media.

Julie Mehretu—Born in Ethiopia, living in New York, and a graduate of the Glassell Core Residency Program at the Museum of Fine Arts-Houston, Julie has, in a span of ten years, become one of the most admired young artists in the country. In addition to being the recipient of the Louis Comfort Tiffany Grant and the American Art Award from the Whitney Museum of Art, New York, Julie has also met with incredible commercial success, as collectors and museums have given her their full support!

Angelbert Metoyer—Born in Nagitoches, Louisiana, of French, Cajun, and African American descent, Angelbert is perhaps the shows' most "spiritual" artist. Dealing with the past, future, present, galactic history, Jesus, and Jimi Hendrix, all in one work, is not uncommon for this artist. His work has been shown throughout the States, Europe, and the Middle East.

Julian Schnabel—Regarded throughout the world as one of the most important artists of our times, Julian attended the University of Houston from 1969-73, receiving his B.F.A. His paintings, sculptures, and works on paper have been the subject of major retrospectives world wide. Schnabel is also the writer and director of three highly acclaimed motion pictures.