

Deborah Colton Gallery Summer 2013 Newsletter



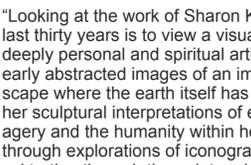
Deborah Colton Gallery Art Aspen 2012 Booth

DEBORAH COLTON GALLERY RETURNS TO ARTASPEN FOR ITS SECOND YEAR

After many successful projects last summer in Aspen, Colorado, Deborah Colton Gallery will feature for the second year internationally acclaimed Russian artist, Oleg Dou, and American artist, David Graeve, whose installations were throughout the campus of the Aspen Institute during the 2012 Aspen Ideas Festival and who will have his photographic spheres installed over the ArtAspen VIP Lounge this year. Making her ArtAspen debut will be Deborah Trevino Porter with her *Journey* series. The ArtAspen Art Fair is from August 2 to August 4, 2013, with an Opening Night Preview Reception on Thursday evening, August 1st.

SHARON KOPRIVA'S RETROSPECTIVE TOUR

Internationally respected artist, Sharon Kopriva, debuted her 30 year retrospective *From Terra to Verde: The Art of Sharon Kopriva* at the Ogden Museum of Southern Art October 2012 to January 2013 and now the exhibition has opened at The Blue Star Contemporary in San Antonio through August 24, 2013. The exhibition includes



works from both private and museum collections, newer works from the Deborah Colton Gallery 2011 exhibition and Kopriva's newest work that is exhibited for the first time on this tour. A hard cover catalogue was published by the Ogden Museum and is available also through Deborah Colton Gallery.

"Looking at the work of Sharon Kopriva over the last thirty years is to view a visual counting of a deeply personal and spiritual artistic life. From the early abstracted images of an imagined landscape where the earth itself has bones, through her sculptural interpretations of ethnographic imagery and the humanity within her catholic faith, through explorations of iconography and universal truths, through the quiet and reverent portrayal of her forest, of her cathedral green - she has always depicted the world around her - real and imagined - and has done so with a singular vision." Bradley Sumrall, Chief Curator, Ogden Museum of Southern Art.

In 2011, Deborah Colton Gallery presented the solo exhibition, *Cathedrals Phantoms and Naked Dogs*, which highlighted Kopriva's past religious imagery as a backdrop to address social issues and political events. As catalogue was published by the Gallery, which included quotes from Walter Hopps and an essay by Raphael Rubinstein. As Rubinstein noted in his essay, "If Kopriva has a keen sense of mortality (of individuals and of civilizations), she is also ready to celebrate the persistence of hope and the new life that can grow amid the ruins of history—that is the real magic of her magical realism".

A native Houstonian, Sharon Kopriva kicked off her artistic career in the mid 80's, which included the 1985 *Fresh Paint* exhibition at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston. Kopriva has exhibited in solo and group exhibitions throughout the United States, Mexico, Peru, India, Cuba, China, Berlin and various parts of Europe, including being represented by Deborah Colton Gallery in several national art fairs. Noted shows include the solo exhibition which was curated by the legendary Walter Hopps at the Menil Collection in 2000. "We strongly believe in the power of art to raise awareness and enter into our consciousness, enhancing our individual spirituality and thus contributing to positive change in the world" says Deborah M. Colton.

PARIS PHOTO DEBUTS IN THE UNITED STATES

The first United States Edition of the famous Paris Photo took place at the Paramount Picture Studios in Los Angeles April 25 to April 28, 2013.

Paris Photos Los Angeles debuted with 72 of the finest galleries world wide from 14 different countries, including Deborah Colton Gallery, which was the only United States Gallery from central-southwestern region.

Deborah Colton Gallery presented select works and video by Jonas Mekas as titled *I remember it all... as if it were yesterday...* which included still-frame photographs from several bodies of works Mekas created through his films. The Booth captures much attention and was featured in a great deal of press covering the Art Fair (link). Deborah Colton Gallery was in the Back Street Section of the Art Fair with its own street front entrance and private Gallery space. Over 14,000 people attended Paris Photo Los Angeles and the show was very successful.

Jonas Mekas: the Founder of Anthology Films in New York, the film maker, poet, writer, and artist. Jonas Mekas captured moments that we all cherish in art history, in American history, in life. From film producers, Salvador Dali, Kennedy's, Warhol, Yoko Ono and John Lennon, the World Trade Center... to then more personal special moments of nature, his family, being human and celebrating life, cherishing each experience to the fullest.

Also featured was the Jonas Mekas video WTC HAIKUS, video 14 min. 2010.

"Looking through my unfinished and unfinished films, I was surprised how many glimpses of the World Trade Center I caught during my life in SoHo. I had a feeling I was Hokusai glimpsing Mount Fuji. Only that it was the World Trade Center. The World Trade Center was an inseparable part of my and my family's life during my SoHo period from 1975-1995. This installation is my love poem to it. My method in constructing this piece was simply to pull out images of the WTC from my original footage, while including some of the surrounding scenes. The result I felt came close, albeit indirectly, to what in poetry is known as the Haiku."

Often called "the Godfather of American avant-garde cinema", the works of Jonas Mekas have been exhibited in museums, festivals and biennale's world-wide.

Deborah Colton Gallery first debuted Jonas Mekas in Houston in the solo exhibition *Film Framed* at 2500 Summer Street in 2006. In 2007, Jonas Mekas was also included in the Group Exhibition at Deborah Colton Gallery, *Chemical City*. Since then Deborah Colton Gallery continues to represent Jonas Mekas including projects through the Gallery's **OUTPOST NYC DCG**.

Deborah Colton Gallery will open a large retrospective solo exhibition of Jonas Mekas, including video installations and still frame photography November 9, 2013. On the same evening, The Cinema Houston Film Festival, (November 6 to November 10), will present the Houston premiere of *Out-Takes from the Life of a Happy Man* in the Aurora Picture Show theater, next door to the Deborah Colton Gallery. Sunday, November 10th, Deborah Colton Gallery will have a Q + A with Jonas Mekas also.

SOODY SHARIFI: JAMEEL PRIZE EXHIBITION

At the San Antonio Museum of Art, through August 11, 2013, Soody Sharifi's art is one of twenty artist's works in Jameel Prize: *Art Inspired by Islamic Tradition*. This traveling exhibition has been organized by London's Victoria and Albert Museum and has now toured to San Antonio this summer.

Soody Sharifi is an Iranian-American artist based in Houston. Her work primarily deals with the paradoxes and contradictions inherent in living between two cultures. In many of her series, she has explored the notion of identity and what it means to participate in two cultures from both an outsider's and an insider's perspective. Through different series, she investigates this concept as it applies to Moslem youth in Iran and US and their emerging concept of self-identity specifically how they accommodate modernity and the indulgences and exploration specific to youth within a very traditional society.

Soody Sharifi has been exhibited nationally and internationally, including museum exhibitions at the V & A in London, l'Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris and in Norway and Finland. Her work has been collected by major patrons worldwide and is in the collections of such institutions as the Portland Museum of Art and the Museum of Fine Art Houston, among others. Soody Sharifi first exhibited at Deborah Colton Gallery in the Group Exhibition, *The Rule and it's Exception*, May - June 2012. Since then, Sharifi has been featured in the Deborah Colton Gallery's Houston Fine Art Fair and Dallas Art Fair Booths and also has had the solo exhibition, November 2012 - January 2013 *The Desert Beyond the City Belongs to Me*.

As I have done for the past decade, I continue to use photography both as a discipline and as a catalyst or resource towards other media, in this case collages. At times staged, at others simply spontaneous, the contemporary figures are then integrated into a larger composition" Soody Sharifi.

NEW YORK CITY BASED ARTIST, HARIF GUZMAN, HAS GREAT SUCCESS AT HONG KONG ART BASEL 2013

Traveling to Hong Kong for Art Basel in May, Guzman made an impact with his street art and fine art when he was invited to participate in Asia's biggest street art exhibition *Work in Progress* curated by Above Second. In addition, Guzman painted a mural featuring his renowned *One of a Kind* series opening the end of June 2013. Guzman also met with private collectors who snagged up his *One of a Kind* fine art series, as well as, the popular restaurant Brickhouse, Hong Kong hanging his 64 Impala piece inside their establishment.

From Hong Kong back to New York City, Guzman recently unveiled of a series of murals he has completed at the entrance of the A-list, exclusive New York City lounge, Electric Room which will remain open for the summer as an outdoor gallery. This massive installation is about four to five times the size of any piece he has ever done and is permanent. Naming this installation *Uptown Meets Downtown* it consisting of numerous collages of photos he has taken over 20 years, featuring the likes of Georgia May Jagger as well as other muses of his, along with original paintings from a variety of his collections.

(Link to Guzman's recent interview with Milk Made)

Harif Guzman recently had a solo exhibition at Deborah Colton Gallery, titled *Dying to Live*, which ran from February 23 to May 9, 2013. His work was also featured at the Deborah Colton Gallery Dallas Art Fair Booth with a selection of his work still on display at the gallery now.



Harif Guzman, Painting one of his street art murals

GREAT RESPONSE ON ALFREDO SCAROINA'S PAINTINGS IN DALLAS

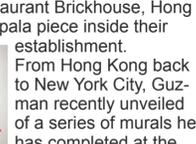
At the 2013 Dallas Art Fair, Alfredo Scaroina's work, exhibited at the Deborah Colton Gallery booth, was sold out by opening night. His work had a similar situation at the 2012 Dallas Art Fair also, with key sponsors of the Art Fair from Paris acquiring several of his works on opening night. Due to this success, Alfredo Scaroina recently had a solo exhibition at Kirk Hopper Gallery on Commerce Street in Dallas, titled, *Quid Pro Quo*, which ran through July 6, 2013.

Alfredo Scaroina's work explores issues of abstraction: understanding how emotional and psychological expression change from one culture to another, affecting the perception of the individual as well as the collective consciousness. In the Jungian sense, everyday events, situations and information influence his works in which hieroglyphic, ideogrammatic markings and distorted geometric forms pulsate with energy and sensuality through organic layers of paint.

His works create valid dimensions with time, matter, particles and multidimensional subjects. These concepts of matter as art form translate into symbolism, urbanism and modernism, which are consummated through a direct affair of the creative process by the use of non-conventional and conventional materials. This allows for construction and deconstruction in order to create and destroy, resulting in an intersection where these points unite and said paradoxes make sense.

Alfredo Scaroina was born and raised in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. He has had numerous solo and group exhibitions, including a group exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in Santo Domingo where he will soon have a solo show.

Scaroina's solo exhibition, *Taming Matter/Coramanda la Materia*, at the Deborah Colton Gallery the summer of 2012 received national and international press plus many private and public acquisitions. His work is in prestigious collections throughout the United States, Europe and Latin America.



Deborah Colton, Alfredo Scaroina and Kirk Hopper

ANGELBERT METOYER EXHIBITION SELLS OUT OPENING NIGHT

Angelbert Metoyer's recent solo exhibition at Deborah Colton Gallery, *Babies: Walk on Water, Present, Future and Time Travelers*, met with great success, with collectors flying into Houston from various cities and red dots on every new work by the end of the opening reception. Long time collectors and curators throughout Texas, nationally and internationally have embraced the accompanying catalogue to the exhibition that has essays written by Catherine D. Ansporn, author of *Texas Artists Today*, Steven Pnylos (New York City) Kristie Ramirez (Dallas), Maurice Bobb (Houston) and Deborah M. Colton writing the introduction. The catalogue highlights the journey of the *Babies, Time Traveler Series* with essays or works included by many of Metoyer's patrons and collectors, including Craig Massey, Lester Marks, Poppi Massey, Karla & Mark McKinney among others. The catalogue is available through Deborah Colton Gallery.



Angelbert Metoyer's recent solo exhibition at Deborah Colton Gallery

Angelbert Metoyer is one of the most dynamic artistic creators coming out of Texas. Launching his artistic career when he was still in high school in 1994, Metoyer was given two rooms in the Project Row Houses: a community arts center based in Houston. In 1995, he was included in exhibitions concurrently at Project Row Houses and Contemporary Arts Museum Houston and then moved to Atlanta to study at what is now the Savannah College of Art and Design. Metoyer has acquired a devoted following of collectors in Texas, nationally and abroad. His artwork is included in many museum collections including the African American Museum in Dallas, the Museum of Fine Arts: Houston, the Museum of Fine Arts, Leipzig (Germany) and the Williamsburg Museum of 21st Century Art in Brooklyn, among others. Metoyer was first shown at Deborah Colton Gallery in *Qatar Narratives: A Country Expressed By Its Own Voices* (2008). In this exhibition, Metoyer was selected as the only American artist, where his work reflected on the art of the nine prominent Qatari artists also included and revealed Metoyer's mystical connections to the Middle East. Since then he has consistently shown his breathtaking work worldwide, exhibiting in various cities in the United States, as well as internationally in Italy, Germany, Peru, the United Kingdom, France, China, Cuba and the United Arab Emirates. Besides his other international projects, Angelbert will be having another major solo exhibition at Deborah Colton Gallery the fall of 2014.

FRANK RODICK CONTINUES TO GAIN GLOBAL ATTENTION

Internationally recognized Canadian artist, Frank Rodick recently had a solo exhibition entitled *Selections from Labyrinth of Desire* at the MAC (McKinney Art Contemporary) in Dallas. This exhibition consisted of selected works from *Labyrinth of Desire*, an exhibition of photographs, curated by Katherine Ware, at the Deborah Colton Gallery - Houston during FotoFest 2010. Formerly a curator at the Philadelphia Museum of



Katherine Ware, Deborah Colton, Fred Baldwin, Frank Rodick and Nancy Brokaw

Art and the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, Katherine Ware is now Curator of Photography at the New Mexico Museum of Art in Santa Fe. *Labyrinth of Desire* consisted of photographic images created from 1991 to 2010. Known for creating powerful, evocative, and sometimes controversial pictures, Rodick alters images into sequenced compositions that explore the complex realm of the human psyche. The juxtaposition of images mimics the imprecise and non-linear workings of our private thoughts, memories and desires. To accompany the original exhibition, Deborah Colton Gallery published a catalogue, also entitled *Labyrinth of Desire*, surveying Rodick's career. This book included an essay by Katherine Ware. In that text, Ware stated:

The human mind continues to be one of the most uncharted frontiers of all. From his beginnings as a photographer, Frank Rodick has consistently explored this terrain, breaching the crenellations of the cerebral cortex to probe the limbic system, where our animal selves hunker. A medium recognized for its excellence in recording surfaces, photography is a challenging tool for plumbing the recesses of the mind. However, because it so easily creates a mirror world, a place parallel to our own, photography is also adroit at recontextualizing recognizable subjects to create new meanings. Rodick exploits this paradox and, as his career progresses, continues to use techniques that sever images from conventional interpretation, pushing viewers to engage with them in a less straightforward manner. "As hallucinatory as they may seem," Rodick writes, "the images I work to create are ones that feel to me more intimately real than our cursory experience of everyday life, and that give voice to the inner worlds that exist in each of us."

The MAC exhibition included a public Q + A with Frank Rodick and Katherine Ware. Video of their discussion can be seen at www.frankrodick.com/katherine-ware-and-frank-rodick-in-conversation.html. North Texas Arts + Culture Magazine also featured a review, available at www.artsandculturentx.com/fresh-Friday-art-uncharted-frontiers.

Frank Rodick first showed at Deborah Colton Gallery on 2500 Summer Street in his powerful and evocative 2007 exhibition, *The Longest Night*. Over the course of his career, Rodick has creatively integrated traditional photography with alternative darkroom techniques, video and digital imaging. His images have been widely exhibited across North America, Latin America, Europe, and the Middle East. A recent solo exhibition, entitled *Faces Interred* and curated by Irina Chmyreva, took place in Russia. This fall examples of Rodick's most recent work will be featured in an exhibition on photomontage, curated by Stephen Perloff of The Photo Review, and entitled *Photomontage Now*.

Public collections in the US that have acquired Rodick's work include the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Brooklyn Museum, the Kinsey Institute, and Lehigh University Art Galleries. Internationally, his work is in the collections of the National Gallery of Canada, the Musée de la Photographie à Charleroi in Belgium, the Museet for Fotokunst in Denmark, and the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de Buenos Aires in Argentina.

Recent publications featuring Rodick's work include W.M. Hunt's *The Unseen Eye*, published by Aperture, and *Of Liquid Cities and Celestial Abattoirs: Frank Rodick*, published in a limited edition by AkinaBooks in the UK. The latter may be found at www.akinabooks.com/of-liquid-cities-and-celestial-abattoirs. An interview between Rodick and AkinaBooks is available at www.akinabooks.com/of-taboos-death-live-and-redemption.

Frank Rodick is represented in the United States by Deborah Colton Gallery, Houston, Texas.

RUSOVICH RELEASES PORTFOLIO

Jay Rusovich has recently launched a portfolio of ten, limited edition 17" x 22" Gelatin Silver prints, dry mounted and placed in a beautiful, hand-made frosted Plexiglas box. The client can also choose the selection of works that appear in each portfolio. The first acquisition of this project is by a highly regarded photography collector in Dallas, Texas.

Jay Rusovich is known for his conceptual, controversial style, which can be described as intuitive, engaging, intense, direct, quick-witted... and sometimes tinged with irony. Jay Rusovich debuted at the Deborah Colton Gallery in the spring of 2005 with the visually provocative solo exhibition, *Inside Out*. Since then Jay has had numerous solo exhibitions and has been included in many national art fairs. Jay Rusovich was born in New Orleans and has received degrees from Tulane University in English and Theater, and also attended Oxford University in England, The University of Arizona and Loyola University in New Orleans. After graduating, he moved to New York City where he studied Method Acting at the Lee Strasberg Institute. Rusovich also attended The Actor's Institute for Shakespearean Studies and TVI Actors Studio in NYC.

Rusovich's career began with a used Nikon 35mm camera when he started booking photo sessions with fellow aspiring actors who were always in need of headshots. For the next 20 years, Rusovich traveled the world, photographing people for advertising agencies, Fortune 500 Companies and major publishing houses, principally in New York and Los Angeles.

Laced with irony, passion and irreverence, Rusovich hammers traditional paradigms through searing imagery that asks the viewer to suspend all judgment, as things are rarely what they seem.

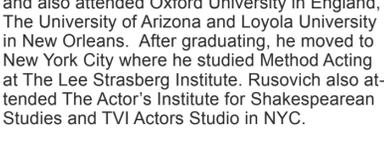
A woman enjoying a fresh bowl of bullets while surfing the Internet for Prince Charming -- to a bride in a homicide vest -- it becomes obvious that what we see on the outside is rarely a reflection of what's behind the curtain.

"I see no reason to photograph anything that doesn't make a statement of some kind. Beauty for the sake of itself is, in the end, dismissive and ugly. And while my work does rely heavily on lighting technique and photographic balance, which are critical to great photography, I'm not a fan of anything that doesn't challenge me in some way..." -- Jay Rusovich

DEBORAH COLTON GALLERY'S FIFTH YEAR AT THE DALLAS ART FAIR

Celebrating its fifth year of participation since the debut of the Dallas Art Fair, Deborah Colton Gallery built a large and elaborate booth where many bodies of work could be exhibited for this special occasion.

A selection of work from our artists included paintings, photography, sculpture and video from:



Entrance of Deborah Colton Gallery's Dallas Art Fair 2013 Booth

Lowell Boyers, Rania Daniel, Roberto Del Rio, Oleg Dou, Mary Beth Edelson, Molly Gochman, Matthew Grabelsky, David Graeve, Harif Guzman, Linda Hofeinz, Paul Horn, Sharon Kopriva, Jean-Daniel Lorieux, Angelbert Metoyer, Deborah Trevino Porter, Frank Rodick, Alfredo Scaroina, Mary Ann Strandell and Olga Tobreluts

Acquisitions were excellent during the Art Fair and are continuing to be strong into the summer.

DAVID GRAEVE FEATURED ARTIST AT EXHIBITIONS

Texas has come alive recently with the dynamic and original creations of David Graeve.

The main solo exhibition at Deborah Colton Gallery, May 18th to July 6th, has been David Graeve's *Social Lens*, which has received a great response from curators, art writers and collectors. September 14 to October 26, 2013, David Graeve will have a solo exhibition at the MAC in Dallas which will be a one site installation based exhibit, titled *Social Lens #3*. The MAC is a participating institution in the Texas Biennial during this time.



David Graeve's Social Lens at Deborah Colton Gallery

David Graeve's multimedia, multidisciplinary approach to this show is in direct alignment with minimalist sculptor Tony Smith. Graeve plays with and expands the minimalist concepts embodied in Smith sculptures located on the Menil campus with a structural and poetic twists and turns. Creating models for public projects of grand scale in direct response to Smith with a pluralistic approach to public art while investigating concepts embodied in minimalist.

Innovation of materials, idea and installation is a signature of Graeve's work, constantly creating one of a kind pieces responding to the physical and social constructs of the space with his intention rooted in expanding visual language. David takes inspiration from revolutionary thinkers Rudolf Steiner and Joseph Beuys with his work consciously grounded in concepts of humanism, social philosophy with a residue of political and poetic satire.

David Graeve has received numerous public commissions including the Texas Sculpture Garden, Houston Museum of African American Culture, Herman Memorial. In addition to his extensive five year evolving sculptural installation at the Discovery Green (from Thanksgiving to MLK day 2008-13), Graeve has exhibited his photographic sculptural spheres at the entrance of the Dallas Art Fair, at Art Aspen, at the Houston Fine Arts Fair and several other prominent locations. Last summer David Graeve was the US Trust sponsored artist at the Aspen Ideas Festival at the Aspen Institute where he activated the entire campus with a monumental sculptural spheres installation running through buildings and across the entire grounds. Graeve is a recipient of awards from the City of Minneapolis an Award of Merit and Q Award. Curators Award of Merit (Galveston Art Center), Davis-Ryan Award and Friends of Art Program Scholarship. David Graeve is represented in the United States by Deborah Colton Gallery.