

The City of West Hollywood presents

A 25th Anniversary

CELEBRATION OF ART in West Hollywood

WeHo@25

**43 Artists / 47 Works that Celebrate the
Creativity in the Creative City**

November 4 - 27, 2010

Exhibit hours: Saturdays -12 noon to 5 p.m.
or by appointment - 323/848-6883

Temporary Gallery

8270 Santa Monica Boulevard
West Hollywood, CA 90069

Juried by **Howard N. Fox**

Curator Emeritus of Contemporary Art
Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Organized by the **City of West Hollywood**
through its **Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission**

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This exhibition, brought together from works by more than 40 artists, is a celebration of West Hollywood – its diversity, its spirit, its sights and sounds, and its creative energy – on the occasion of West Hollywood’s 25th anniversary as an incorporated city. Artists throughout Southern California were invited to submit works for inclusion in this presentation. While there were no formal criteria for content, style, technique, or medium, many artists who participated were clearly inspired in their art, and in their choice of works, by a spirit of place. The inclusive character of the selections exhibited here directly reflects the artists’ interests and the fulfillment of their daily work in their studios.

Some of the objects, particularly the photographs that appear here, document the activities and “personality” of West Hollywood and its citizens, such as the internationally famous annual Halloween Carnival and Gay Pride Parade. Numerous paintings capture both the appearance and public activity of the city’s urban streets as well as the natural landscape that surrounds the area, making it so distinctive a setting in which to live and work. Other works, such as several provocative portraits and character studies, probe more introspective moments. And a selection of abstract paintings that do not otherwise specifically reference West Hollywood or Southern California, echo the range of artistic activity in the region. The artworks in this exhibition represent a core sample of these artists’ focal interests.

The City of West Hollywood is widely acknowledged and acclaimed for its support of the arts. This exhibition, organized by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, celebrates the vitality and variety of visual art practiced by the city’s resident and neighboring artists. Enjoy!

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Exhibition Juror
and Curator Emeritus of Contemporary Art
Los Angeles County Museum of Art

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Artists

Luciana Abait	Alex Alferov	Ron Anderegg	Joshua Applegate
Paul Arden	Sia Aryai	David Batalon	Jeff Berman
Erin Bobo	Matthew Bope	Ivy Bottini	Marlaya Charleston
Ching Ching Cheng	Hyunsook Cho	Fred Chuang	Greg Day
Tom Demille	Liza Frankiw	Martin Gantman	David "Rudy" Gardner
Shizuko Greenblatt	Zig Gron	Bradley Hankey	Michael Hayden
Carole Hossan	Gil Kaan	Melissa J. Kauk	Hanjo Kim
Jillian Kogan	Bea Lamar	R. Dean Larson	Murray Lebowitz
Meg Madison	Marisa Murrow	Hung Viet Nguyen	R. Nelson Parrish
Cielo Pessione	Burton Rein	Barbara Robertson	Jose Rodriguez Jr.
Ken Sherman	Kum Whee Shin	Gina Stepaniuk	

If you are interested in purchasing works from the **WeHo @ 25** exhibition, please contact Andrew Campbell, Cultural Affairs Administrator, City of West Hollywood at 323/848-6883 or acampbell@weho.org.

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Luciana Abait

Luciana Abait was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1971. From 1993 to 1997 she attended the National School of Fine Arts “Prilidiano Pueyrredon” in Buenos Aires. She also studied Art History at the University of Massachusetts and “Literature and Painting” at the University of Cambridge, England. Luciana Abait moved to Miami in 1997 and became a resident artist of the ArtCenter South Florida in 1998. At the end of 2005 she relocated to Los Angeles where she now lives and works. She is currently a resident artist of 18th Street Arts Center in Santa Monica, California.

“Mixed Nature Series” intends to create the sensation in viewers of witnessing a new visual nature through the creation of manipulated landscapes and installations. It reflects upon human beings and their relationship to the urban and natural environment that surrounds them. It also questions man’s relationship to the micro and macro universes, the significance of individuals in connection to the masses. It aims at reflecting on our position in the world, our significance and our condition of being.



Luciana Abait

Untitled from Mixed Nature Series

Photography, acrylic paint, varnish on canvas
2010

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Alex Alferov

Throughout his artistic career, Alex Alferov has built a vision that combines a fascination with the abstract and his love of the expressiveness of the human face and body. The graphic strength of his street portraits has made his work highly recognizable within the L.A. art scene. Alferov weaves together his personal experiences in the United States, Europe and Asia to create images and installations that investigate the relationship between the human surface and the spiritual interior. A child of Russian refugees who immigrated to the United States after World War II, Alferov went first to Worcester, Massachusetts, then landed in an old house on Fountain Avenue where he grew up. Angeles. There, experienced the duality of the immigrant identity on a daily basis. As he grew into adulthood, Alferov wrote and painted to document his life, absorbing new influences under the Hollywood sign but never forgetting the haunting Slavic images of his early childhood.

HE / SHE

BLACK WHITE

FRAGMENTED PERSONA

MY GAYNESS

SPANS THE MOVEMENT

FROM THAT NIGHT

OUR DRAG SISTERS REFUSED

TO GO QUIETLY INTO THE NIGHT

TO THE MARCHES IN OUR CITIES

FOR VISIBILITY

MOTIVATION AND COURAGE

TO COME OUT OF THE LAVENDER CLOSET

WE WERE PRISONERS OF OUR OWN GUILT

SPOON-FED BY SOCIETY AND RELIGION

FUELING OUR INABILITY TO ADJUST, BELONG

BLACK AND WHITE

LABELED, OSTRACIZED

FOR GENTLE WAYS

SISSY / FAIRY

WEARING THE AFTERMATH OF THOSE WORDS

WALKING THAT

TIGHTROPE BETWEEN ISOLATION

LONELINESS

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ALONE IN MY ROOM
SCRIBBLING / ESCAPING
FINDING A WAY TO
LOVE
ACCEPT MYSELF

THAT IS
THE HISTORY OF MY LIFE / ART

ALEX ALFEROV / 2010



Alex Alferov
Female
Hand-painted tile
2009



Alex Alferov
Prisoner
Hand-painted tile
2009

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Ron Anderegg

Ron Anderegg, born in Portland, Oregon, began his artistic training at the Portland Art Museum when he was eight years old. After high school, he relocated to Los Angeles to attend the Chouinard Art Institute (now CalArts) where he received a strong classic education in drawing and design. Upon graduation, Anderegg joined Walt Disney (WED) as an assistant art director in the graphic design department. One of his initial projects was working on the original Disneyland, designing collateral materials such as posters, shop signs and restaurant menus. In 1963, the mandatory draft summoned Anderegg into the U.S. Army where he served as a designer/illustrator with the Army's Exhibit Unit. Following military service, Anderegg returned to Los Angeles and joined RMB Advertising Agency where he worked as an art director. In 1986, Anderegg retired from commercial art to seriously follow the "true song of his soul", fine art. In the fall of 2010 he will be teaching figure drawing at the Gay and Lesbian Center in Hollywood.

I CONSIDER MY ART TO BE THE OUTLET OF MY OBSERVATIONS OF THE WORLD; SOCIALLY, POLITICALLY, AND SPIRITUALLY THAT I WANT TO COMMUNICATE TO OTHERS. USING A WIDE RANGE OF MEDIA, SUCH AS PAINTING, DRAWING, SCULPTURE, COLLAGE AND PHOTOGRAPHY, ALLOWS ME A MORE DIVERSE RANGE TO EXPRESS MY VIEWS. I AM ATTRACTED TO CONTROVERSIAL THEMES AND DO NOT SHY AWAY FROM TABOO SUBJECTS.



Ron Anderegg
***Gay Citizens: The First 25 Years of the
Gay Liberation Movement***
3D collage
1994

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Joshua Applegate

Photography and graphic design has always inspired me from a young age. Movie making and directing was my passion as a child. Today, I let the inspiration choose the art form in which I use to express and produce, whether it be video or photography. I've indulged much of my time into photography and graphics lately and found a passion for capturing beautiful images. With creativity as my tool and the world as my canvas, anything is possible.

As a gay man growing up in West Hollywood I feel that one can truly loose himself in an imaginary reality. It's very easy to fall victim to the glam and the fame of the legendary Hollywood, California. Through my art I express reality that we each have within us. Stripping of our facades, exposing our true selves and being proud of who we are down to the naked true reality. Because, as we learn in life...we create our own reality. Sunday Afternoon is my way of expressing my idea of a perfect relationship. The simple pleasure of spending a Sunday afternoon with your lover.



Joshua Applegate
Sunday Afternoon
Music video/short film DVD
2009

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Paul Arden

A native of Los Angeles, Paul Arden is Manager of the West Hollywood apartment building where he has lived since 1993. Having studied at Art Center College of Design and U.C. Santa Cruz, he then earned an MFA degree at UCLA, where he co-authored a book about Jan Stussy, one of his former professors, and where he continues at Extension, teaching Visual Art and Landscape Architecture. In addition to numerous exhibits of his work, throughout California and New Mexico, several of Arden's paintings were used in the Focus Features film, "The Shape of Things". Last summer, his landscape drawing classes were presented at Norton Simon Museum, in Pasadena.



Paul Arden
The Physiognomy Garden
Oil on Canvas
1988

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Sia Aryai

Born in Tehran, Iran, in the mid 70's, Aryai left Iran for England, where he received an education and gained freedom for his artistic passion. Later, he ventured on to the United States, where in the mid 80's he discovered the medium of photography gave him the perfect means to capture the beauty of the subject. Aryai's artworks have shown in galleries and museums throughout the United States.

Hand embellished pigment print on canvas, incorporates sanding of the surface to soften the outlines of the subject and to diffuse the edges between light and shadow. Layers of lacquer and resin break up the continuous tones of the image. The resulting effect is a modern creation with an eternal aesthetic. Emphasizing the sensual forms, figures, and emotions of the subject, the finished images evoke memories of everlasting, graceful beauty.



Sia Aryai

Hesitation for Passion #4005

Hand embellished photograph on printed canvas

2006

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Davidd Batalon

Davidd Batalon has a love for narratives. His paintings reflect a strong desire to create worlds saturated with intrigue and mystery. Born in Oceanside, CA, Batalon was raised in Orange County, a first generation Filipino American. Graduating from Cal State Fullerton with an MA degree in Art, he moved to Los Angeles, eventually making West Hollywood his home for over 15 years. His art reflects episodes of his life, including influences from the city that helped him blossom into a more daring storyteller.

I continually push myself to refine my technique and intent. Creating a drawing, or a painting, challenges me to keep my skills in shape in order to bring a level of believability to a figure, an object, a landscape. But I also strive to free inhibitions from a life initially begun in the shadows. Living in West Hollywood broke down inner barriers that I was not comfortable to address. Now, with less restriction, every effort put forward leads to that moment of satisfaction when an image once floating in my imagination, finally stares back at me with a life and voice all its own.



Davidd Batalon

Leaving to Anywhere

Oil on canvas

1997

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Jeff Berman

Jeff Berman is a visual artist exhibiting extensively throughout Los Angeles, Ventura and Orange Counties. Starting in 1997, Berman took his art from hobby to exhibition, which has made creating art more fun and exciting for him. Besides several awards and articles in newspapers, his art has been used as the background for an exhibition promotion, a digital art exhibit, and an outdoor light display.

A TREE GROWS IN BOOKLAND is created from recycled books and book pages. Objects that you would not expect to be used to make art are always a positive challenge to me. As the expression goes “one persons’ trash is another persons’ treasure” fits what I enjoy doing. When people can recognize the materials that are used and even for a moment, realize that art has no limits, that is more than enough to satisfy me.



Jeff Berman

A Tree Grows in Bookland

Mixed media

2010

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Erin Bobo

Erin Bobo was a military child and grew up all over the world. His grandmother and mother were artists and gave him the fortunate sensibility to appreciate and not ignore the world they were bouncing through. He has called Los Angeles, California home since 1995 and started "The Bobo Collection" in 2004. He was a commissioned artist for the Trump Baja resort penthouses. His art has also been recently featured in a national Starbucks commercial and has had pieces commissioned for the financial powerhouse Merrill Lynch. He is also a member of the Los Angeles Art Association and one the few select Gallery 825 artists. He is nationally collected artist and his art can be found in private collections all over the United States.



Erin Bobo

Flight of the Swallow

Oil on wood with resin finish

2010

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Matthew Bope

Matthew Bope is an artist, singer-songwriter, musician, and inventor/U.S Patent holder who lives in West Hollywood. He moved to Los Angeles from San Francisco in 2002. Matthew's collection of art design pieces, paintings, and digital prints can be found at [Kosmic Engine.com](http://KosmicEngine.com). He is also available for commissioned works.

My work during this period evokes thoughts on the sexual nature of identity, gender, pop culture, and freedom of expression within society. I use body language, portraits, odd beings in surreal landscapes, and abstract depictions of pop icons to celebrate the beautiful, the vain, and the strange. I feel a strong connection with West Hollywood and look forward to sharing my work with the community.



Matthew Bope
Marilyn
Oil on canvas
2008

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Ivy Bottini

Ivy Bottini was born in August 1926. She is an artist, a mother and a legendary activist, devoting over 40 years to the feminist and LGBT's struggle for civil and human rights. Bottini studied at Pratt Institute School of Art in Brooklyn, NY where she obtained a certificate in advertising graphic design and illustration. Bottini completed a 16 year career at Newsday where she was art director and illustrator. Ivy and her husband at the time owned and operated three art galleries on Long Island between 1960 and 1965. After leaving Newsday and moving to Los Angeles in 1971, she studied acting at Lee Strasberg Institute and spent several years performing her one woman show, "The Many Faces of Women" throughout the Nation. Ivy continued to be an avid activist for LGBT rights founding the first AIDS organization in Los Angeles, AIDS Network LA, and co-founding AIDS Project L.A. She has been co-chair of the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board for the city of West Hollywood from 1999 to 2010.

This famous and respected activist has, for all her life been painting, drawing and interpreting the human form. She explores the human form and its relationship to itself, to space and to its surroundings. In addition she interprets numerous other subjects in a variety of media. Many of her early works are included in collections of followers on the east coast, where she began her art career. However her prolific creativity has produced a large collection of works, both original and giclee prints that are available for purchase to those who would like to become part of this amazing history.



Ivy Bottini
American Landscape
Acrylic on canvas
2009

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Marlaya Charleston

Charleston's work is informed by the culture of the 60's and early 70's. As a young teenager, she was visiting the jazz clubs in Greenwich Village and frequenting the Museum of Modern Art. She was developing as an artist and was deeply inspired by cultural breakthroughs and explosions of sensibilities in music, politics and social mores. Charleston's formal training began in New York at the age of 16 where she attended the Art Students League and Parsons School of Design. She acquired a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the School of Visual Arts, also in New York. Her works are collected internationally and throughout the Los Angeles area and she is happy to be living here now. She arrived here in 1990 and lived in West Hollywood for most of the last 20 years. Marlaya says West Hollywood is the "best place to live in L.A."

In my work, the music is the conduit. I am completely inspired as I experience the freedom, dynamic energy, love, passion, joy and the improvisational quality, exploring new and infinite possibilities. Working in this way brings forth to me the idea that we are always creating our own reality and we always have the choice to create joy for ourselves and for others. I find communicating this idea of creation to be powerful and exciting.



Marlaya Charleston
Sing!
Acrylic on canvas
2004

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Ching Ching Cheng

I always put myself in the situation to make the subject matter more personal to me, so my work gives an intimate and personal account of my own experiences, while simultaneously encouraging the viewer to recall their own. My work is symbolic and conceptual. I present subject matter outside the self from this psychological position. I am constantly trying to replace the figures in my paintings with images that represent the idea of the figure, an object or an animal that takes on the persona of what the figure represents. This intimate gesture allows for a personal connection to be forged by the viewer with the work. Ultimately, there is no definitive subject, but only a meditation on personal experience and emotion. The subject matter that influences and inspires my work the most comes from psychology and nature. The ways people deal with situations are very different from one another, and I find this very special and interesting. I challenge myself through drawing, solving problems and difficult ideas. Most of my work is mixed media using ink, watercolor, gouache, and acrylic. I work digitally and traditionally as well as three dimensionally, and like to experiment with different techniques and mediums. The color of my work is very subtle, and quiet.



Ching Ching Cheng

8mm

Old books, glue, resin, tape

2010

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Hyunsook Cho

An award-winning artist who created the Hacienda Condo Art Project in West Hollywood, Cho holds a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Hong-Ik University of Fine Art, Seoul, Korea, and a Master of Fine Arts Degree from California State University, Long Beach. Her works have been displayed in numerous group and solo exhibitions in museum and gallery shows throughout the world. She works in painting, sculpture, mixed media, as well as photos and has created environmental art/installations.

Influences of Surrealism, Minimalism, and Conceptualism, my works are a simple form of two and three-dimensional, sometimes abstract forms other times more representative forms which I express my thoughts and experiences. I pursue my artistic practice by documenting the place I had visited and the people I met, creating a road map, which orient myself as an artist seeking direction.



Hyunsook Cho
Landscape 0523
Mixed media on paper
2009

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Fred Chuang

Born of immigrant Chinese physicians, raised in Texas, I came to Fine Art circuitously through Theater Design (MFA, Carnegie-Mellon, Scenery & Costume Design, 1978). Unhindered by instruction in traditional art techniques and genre, I found my own technique, using aerosol acrylic, spray paint, on the back side of an extremely thin sheet of clear panel, PETG. While often mistaken as copper enameling, my paintings benefit from the spontaneity and scale that paint affords.

My paintings are “obverse” paintings, rather than “reverse” paintings, in that they are not the product of a backward, formulaic process, but rather the result of a creative “dialogue” of action and reaction, generated to be viewed through the clear surface. Working from behind is not the equivalent of working in reverse. The uncertainties of working from this direction also imbue my work with the opportunity for a significant contribution from the muse. While I do not currently live in West Hollywood, my first experience in Los Angeles, when I arrived in 1978 was to walk Santa Monica Boulevard from The Formosa all the way to Robertson. “Boystown” was a virtual Mecca to me as a newly arrived, youthful gay man. As an Asian man, I was not completely submerged into the “social” fabric of this unique community; I was nevertheless delighted by and identified with the freedom that was offered to all of my sexual orientation. I believe that freedom and exuberance resonates, still, in my expressions in Fine Art.



Fred Chuang
Cytoclastic I
Aerosol acrylic (spray paint)
2001

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Greg Day

Greg Day is a documentary and portrait photographer who resides and works in West Hollywood. He is also the Southern California Coordinator of the California LGBT Arts Alliance. Photography has been Greg Day's passion and personal journal for over thirty years. His images have been published and exhibited widely in Europe and America. "African American Life on the Gullah/Geechee Coast: Photographs by Greg Day 1970 - 1977" was exhibited at the Fowler Museum, UCLA in 2009 and is now on view at the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington, D.C. until December 2010. Greg Day's images of "Africa: the First Black Ms Gay Charleston" can be seen currently at the UCLA LGBT Center.

In the 1970's I lived in Greenwich Village, New York and photographed performance artists and counter-culture celebrities including: Divine, Stephen Varble, Agosto Machado, Peter Hujar, Taylor Mead and Jackie Curtis. The films of John Waters and the Kuchar brothers were my inspiration. I had the pleasure this year of photographing John Waters and my old friend, Mike Kuchar for a new book of interviews with John Waters by West Hollywood writer and award winning film producer James Egan. Presented here is the book cover image from that shoot. It was a delightful and hilarious experience.



Greg Day

John Waters

Digital photographic print

2010

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Tom Demille

Originally from Boston, Tom moved to West Hollywood in 1992, and joined right in being called “The Sign Maker.” Participating in such events as “The Matthew Shepard: Walk Against Hate,” “Trev Broudy: March Against Hate,” The Dyke March, The 9/11 Memorial, Prop 8: Gay Marriage, and once fought for a greater presence of the American flag in West Hollywood. He has participated in West Hollywood City government for the last twelve years, and has been a candidate for City Council three times. Even with the outcome, Tom always felt like he had won, because at the end of the day, it’s the people of West Hollywood who come first. Tom started doing Pop Art in the late 1980s and is inspired by Andy Warhol.



Tom Demille
Harvey Milk
Mixed media
2008

WeHo@25

Liza Frankiw

LIZA FRANKIW was born in Germany and moved to New York as a baby, then another move to Chicago, Illinois where she began to take art lessons. Phoenix, Arizona was the next move and here she began to study art at Arizona State University. A few years later she earned an Associate in Art at San Diego City College and earned her Bachelor in Art, majoring in painting, at California State University Northridge. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and was on the Dean's List. She also has an Associate's degree in Interior Design. Liza works primarily in oils, but also likes to work with pen and ink, colored pencils, pastels, watercolor, and acrylics, as well as manipulated computer images. Her interests range from plein air, dream sequences, abstract and photo real to photo image. She free-lances as a scenic painter, set decorator, prop maker and Teaching Artist.

My art work reflects memorable moments in my life and reflections of society from my point of view. When I moved to LA life wasn't easy for me and I saw things that were new to me. What I saw was that life wasn't easy for many people in LA. I take pictures of different neighborhoods and one of those pictures led to this painting, LA Living. This is also my first photo real painting. I used oils because I like the glazing and the freedom to make changes as I tried to capture the mood of what this painting was saying.



Liza Frankiw
LA Living
Oil on canvas
2004

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Martin Gantman

Martin Gantman is a Los Angeles based artist and writer who has exhibited internationally in such venues as AC Direct Gallery and the Alternative Museum, New York; A.R.C. Gallery, Chicago; HAUS, POST, and the Center for Digital Art, Los Angeles; Artetica, Rome and Viareggio, Italy; and La Coruna, Spain. He has just completed a multi-faceted undertaking titled "Empire" that will be exhibited at Kristi Engle Gallery in February, 2011. His project, "See you when we get home." was featured in Art Journal magazine. Recent published writings include: "The Irresolute Potential in the Unimagined Possibility," "Swingin' in the Slammer," "The Word Was Charm," "DuSable Park: An archeology," "Notes on the Oddness of Things," and "Mapping the Lost Idea." He also co-edited "Benjamin's Blind Spot: Walter Benjamin and the Premature Death of Aura" for the Institute of Cultural Inquiry, distributed by DAP Publications in 2001.



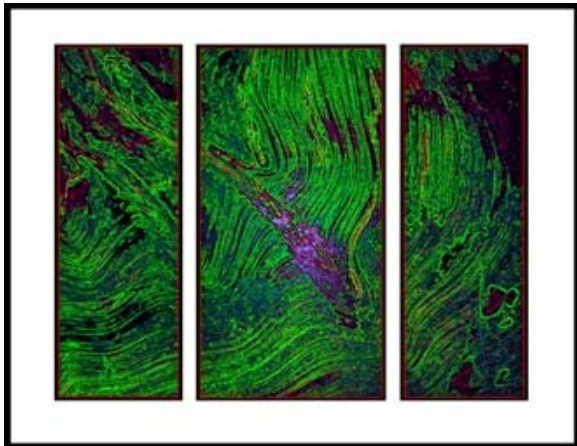
Martin Gantman
Three Landscapes
Digital print triptych
2010

WeHo@25

David “Rudy” Gardner

Born in the High Desert area of Southern California, David Gardner soon discovered the beauty and power of clean natural landscapes. Influenced early on by the emerging environmental movement, David soon learned to enjoy finding discarded objects and then transforming them into useful and artistic pieces. Today this is known as repurposing, recycling or just being "Green". David continues to enjoy bridging that interface between the unused and the desirable with his artwork. During his undergraduate studies David enrolled in photography. His photographic career now covers several decades, and his current photographic work focuses on the abstract, taking objects that are traditionally under appreciated and rarely observed. In addition to photography, David currently works in the artistic media of contemporary multimedia paintings, abstract textiles, landscape design, custom woodworks, and Bonsai

Educated in Horticulture, Landscape Design, Photography, and Botany, much of his work contains elements, themes and/or is influenced by the outdoor landscape, recycling, or unused objects. David, is an employee of the City of West Hollywood, has a strong commitment to the environment, and has been a member of the City's Environmental Task Force.



David “Rudy” Gardner

Lone Koi

Photographic print, chromium inks on paper
2009

WeHo@25

Shizuko Greenblatt

Shizuko Greenblatt was born in Japan to an ancient samurai family. After graduating from Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo, she came to the United States and continued her education at UCLA. Greenblatt is active in art organizations such as the Los Angeles Art Association/Gallery 825 and the San Diego Art Institute, Museum of Living Artists. Her work is continuously exhibited in solo exhibitions at Pacific Asia Museum, in Pasadena, Gallery 825 in Los Angeles, LA Artcore, Brewery Annex in Los Angeles and TAG Gallery in Santa Monica and Group exhibitions are exhibited at numerous venues nation wide curated by museum curators and other art professionals. She is an instructor of Japanese Flower Arrangement and creates fusion Ikebana sculptures and site specific installations as well as paintings. Greenblatt's art is held in private and public collections in Europe, Central America, Japan and the USA. She currently resides and works in Los Angeles.

About three thousand characters derived from the Chinese are used in the standard Japanese language today. I explore these characters utilizing Western modes of contemporary expressionistic style using mixed media. I have chosen characters that have positive and inspiring messages such as "Harmony", "Go Forward" and "Overcoming". I have attempted to express these meanings in my paintings as well as to show the beauty inherent in the individual characters. I have retained the character's basic structure, but have combined multiple characters and artistically modified the shapes. The characters take on an accentuated meanings as well as becoming more artistic.



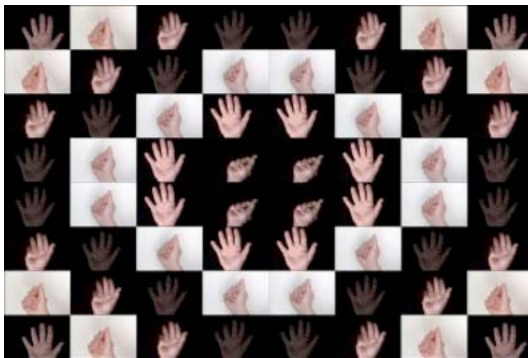
Shizuko Greenblatt
Harmony
Acrylic on canvas
2010

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Zig Gron

Zig Gron grew up in Detroit playing the drums with various bands, eventually moving west to study music composition at the Conservatory of Music in San Francisco, where a performance was given of his one-act chamber opera based on the T.S.Eliot poem, Sweeney Agonistes. It was here, however, that he began his lifelong appreciation of foreign and independent cinema, as he frequented many of the repertory theatres much in vogue in the city at that time. Upon receiving his MFA in film/video from CalArts, Gron began working in the film industry making sound-transfers for a post-production house. Living in West Hollywood (1021 N. Harper), he was also directing Karaoke videos and making experimental films in his one room apartment, sometimes shooting until the wee hours of the morning. He continues to work at his art, which finally, because of the technological process of ephemeralization (i.e. more-with-less-ing), has become available and somewhat affordable. His work has been screened at various venues, large and small, around the globe, including the Pacific Film Archives in Berkeley, REDCAT in downtown, and in New York at Exit Art, The Millennium (solo show) and The Knitting Factory.

Time and rhythm are an integral part of not just what this artist makes, but who he is. The extension of time and rhythm, repetition, is something that informs the art, but one with which the 'human' behind the work is continuously in conscious opposition. As a staunch anti-authoritarian, it is imperative that one live a life aware of the binding shackles of the repeated patterns of the automaton---whether external or self-imposed. It is also very probable that it is almost impossible to achieve. There are various levels of social and psychological behavior operating to form a complex web of some type of enslavement. Enter humor. "One Hand Clapping" offers a tongue-in-cheek approach to the ideas of fragmentation, repetition, tension and release. Although not 'made in West Hollywood' as were his early videos (although still, WeHo adjacent!) they were created in the same spirit: one location, one artist...



Zig Gron
One Hand Clapping
Video (SD)
2008

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Bradley Hankey

Bradley Hankey was born in Oregon in 1979. He studied painting in Boston at Massachusetts College of Art, earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 2007. Travel to Vietnam and Costa Rica in 2005 had a deep impact on his work. His work has been shown in Boston, Tanzania, and Costa Rica. He currently lives and works in West Hollywood, California.

In my work I see memories of places I have been. I am inspired by my travels, my surroundings, and my relationships with people. My paintings are observational: a direct response to the world around me. My current body of work, titled "Natural Beauty: The Los Angeles Paintings," documents my observations and experiences since moving to West Hollywood in the summer of 2009. Through my work, I am probing the mysteries of my new environment. The beauty in the Los Angeles area is hard, at times, to define, but exists nonetheless. My paintings render the grandeur of the natural landscape that has inspired generations of artists; and the undeniable allure of the city, an Airbrushed Eden, that captivates the American imagination.



Bradley Hankey
West Hollywood
Oil on canvas
2009

WeHo@25

Michael Hayden

Originally from Memphis, Tennessee, Michael Hayden moved to New York City in 1986. There, he started a business specializing in home renovations and soon he was introduced to the art of decorative painting. In 1993, in an effort to hone his painting skills, he moved to the San Francisco Bay Area and enrolled at the renowned Day Studio. There he studied high-end decorative art, faux finishes, murals, design and color. While working on a mural in Oakland, California, Michael was introduced to a centuries old method of fine art painting known as encaustic. The medium, comprised of melted beeswax mixed with pigment and resin, soon found its way into Michael's ever expanding body of artwork.

By 1995, he began his transition into a career as a fine artist. Before long, he was incorporating a variety of materials into his mixed-media creations. This started a process that would eventually become the foundation for his signature style of original fine art. Today, Michael lives and works in Los Angeles, California, Traces of his early exposure to a variety of interests continue to influence his work. His love for the encaustic method of painting is prevalent in every one of his new creations. His work is exhibited in Los Angeles and throughout the United States and can be found in collections all over the world.



Michael Hayden
Ghost Palms
Mixed media
2009

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Carole Hossan

I knew I wanted to be an artist since early childhood. I received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, cum laude, with a specialization in illustration, from California State University at Long Beach. After graduation I moved to a small apartment in the then unincorporated area of Los Angeles County known as West Hollywood. I worked part time at night doing technical art and paste-up while building up a freelance clientele. Eventually I left the part time job and became a full time freelance artist. During subsequent years, projects included everything from calligraphy, logos, paintings for nature centers, advertising illustration and film props. I decided to pursue a fine art career and began creating paintings and mixed media works. I started to enter juried art shows and began to win awards. I now divide my time between Playa del Rey, California, and Fort Collins, Colorado, where I have completed two commissions for the City of Fort Collins' "Art in the Alleys" Art in Public Places program. My most recent work, a triptych on wooden panels titled "Prescience", received an Honorable Mention in the juried "Artists in Dreamland" exhibition which recently closed at the Poudre River Arts Center in Fort Collins.

My relationship with West Hollywood began in the late 1970s when I moved to that then unincorporated area of Los Angeles County to be closer to potential art employment. I soon became a member, then Secretary, of the Steering Committee of The Coalition for Economic Survival, a group (still) working for tenants' rights. The Coalition for Economic Survival was one of the midwives helping to bring about the birth of West Hollywood as a City. It was an exciting time when seniors, gays, progressives and creatives (often combinations thereof) worked together to craft and form the new City of West Hollywood, whose nickname became The Creative City. I continued to be active in the City of West Hollywood by canvassing for progressive candidates for City Council, making public comments at Council Meetings, spending over one hundred Saturday mornings being a volunteer receptionist at the CES Tenants Rights Clinic in Plummer Park, and filling a vacancy on the Rent Stabilization Board.



Carole Hossan
Trio Con Brio
Mixed media
1996

WeHo@25

Gil Kaan

Photographer/writer/artist Gil Kaan has been a regular contributor to media outlets—local (Frontiers, WestHollywood.com, dot news) and national (Genre, ReelGay.com) – since before the turn of this century. Gil has had the privilege of photographing and interviewing some major divas in his career; including Ann-Margret, Diana Ross, Liza Minnelli, Faye Dunaway, Carol Channing, Shirley MacLaine, Catherine Deneuve, Pamela Anderson, Anna Nicole Smith, and the three Catwomen of TV—Eartha Kitt, Lee Meriwether, and Julie Newmar. He had the fortuitous opportunity to conduct Lily Tomlin's coming out interview. Gil's first book of photography "Family Jewels" has recently been published.

This photo montage features a small selection of the thousands of Carnival photos Gil Kaan, a long-time West Hollywood resident, has shot from 1997 through 2009. Beginning as an enthusiastic photographer hobbyist, he would spend entire Halloween evenings on our Santa Monica Boulevard, shooting the more colorful, jaw-dropping costumes and the exhibition of stunning pecs and rippling six-packs that came out to the Weho catwalk to celebrate. Then as fate would have it, at the turn of this century, Gil's photos started getting published in Frontiers, beginning when they still occupied their old Santa Monica Blvd. offices, next to the Mobil gas station and above the dry cleaners. Both incarnations of photo processor, PhotoRun (also on Santa Monica Blvd.), would process his pix and mount them in their windows for passersby to view. WestHollywood.com would later become another Weho outlet that featured Gil's Halloween images. Save the actual production of the canvases every aspect of "Esprit de Carnaval" involved various wonderful aspects of our City of West Hollywood.



Gil Kaan

Esprit de Carnaval

Photography montage on canvas
2010 (Images 1997-2009)

WeHo@25

Melissa Kauk

Born in Modesto, CA in 1981, Melissa Kauk earned her M.F.A. degree in Drawing and Painting at California State University, Long Beach in 2007, during which time she was awarded the Richard and Johanna Baker Scholarship and the Marilyn Werby Graduate Exhibition Scholarship. She currently resides in Long Beach, California where she continues to make and exhibit art. She has taught a wide range of art courses at colleges throughout Southern California and recently had her work exhibited in the McNeese: Works on Paper show, curated by Peter Frank. In her spare time, she enjoys tutoring students of all ages in art, science, English, and math.

My artwork investigates “home” defined not only as a physical space, but also as a space that is manifested in the mind and connected to memory. Ten years ago, when I began my college studies, I encountered a cultural shift with my move from agricultural Northern California to the cities of Southern California. The polished images of the Hollywood area seemed so foreign and cold, but I quickly realized that under its pretty façade, Southern California is infused with gritty, worn interiors: scratches and drips that can transform themselves into familiar landscapes or into those doorknobs that we turn until their surfaces tarnish. These marks were just enough to bring forth memories that took me home. Inspired by my local surroundings, my artwork navigates environments through multiple levels of drawing, re-ordering, and building. Images are accumulated as reflections of dwellings that once were, cocooning themselves into a mythological home that is as easily transported as our minds.



Melissa J. Kauk
Double Switch Plate
Mixed media
2010



Melissa J. Kauk
Switch Plate-Iron Gate
Mixed media
2010

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Hanjo Kim

I am just one unknown artist striving to make a living in L.A. This life I am leading is a full of uncertainty, vanity, and unpredictable small incidents. But I find this life very exciting and amusing as well since there are other good aspects of life and they are the motivations keeping me moving forward. I find West Hollywood very energetic, full of colors and live people with interesting backgrounds. This city of art, music, film is a big encouragement and I am very thankful about them.



Hanjo Kim

48 Lives

Mixed media on glass

2010

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Jillian Kogan

Jillian Kogan was born in the Old Line state of Maryland, and lives and works in the Golden State of West Hollywood, California. She received her B.S. from Boston University and did her graduate work at both Harvard University and UCLA. She is an advisor for Los Angeles Art Association and on the MOCA Contemporaries Board. Jillian has participated in group exhibitions including Pharmaka Gallery and Modern One Art Gallery in Los Angeles, and solo shows at Project One, San Francisco and Ambrogi Castanier Gallery, Los Angeles. Her work is in private and public collections nationwide including: MTV Networks, Universal Studios, the BBC, the Bear Flag Museum, Creative Artists Agency and Saatchi Online. In 2008, the Honorable Mayor Villaraigosa dedicated Kogan's mural work to the city and she was awarded the 2008 - 2009 promotional campaign for the California Arts Council. Most recently, she completed a commission by the California Travel & Tourism Commission to honor of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Jillian is currently preparing for a solo show at Gallery 825, Los Angeles.

My artist heroes sought objects, which are seen and not looked at. As an artist working strictly with state and national flags, my reinterpretation of banners allows the viewer to demystify their iconography and alter their individual symbolic perceptions. The viewer's relationship to the work can provoke perceptions of substance abuse vs. healthy consumption, idol worship vs. celebrity, recycle vs. unsalvageable. The art challenges the examiner to question the message of conventional objects altered into alternative conceptions. The subversive flags reinvent the fabric of their intentions and capture the vigorous collision of signs and symbols as they unfurl.



Jillian Kogan

Reloaded Republic

Assemblage mixed media

2008

WeHo@25

Bea Lamar

Bea Lamar is a visual artist and professional photographer based in Los Angeles. She is a regular contributor to several magazines, and has been published internationally.

By painting with light and capturing moments with curiosity, I aspire to create strong imagery from delicate and soft subjects. I am inspired by beauty and always working on creating intuitive images that make what's foreign feel more like home, transporting the viewer to faraway lands through imagery and bridging the gap between cultures. The yearly West Hollywood Carnival has become a Mecca for artists and creative forces from around the World. Being submerged in that magical world for a night, I wanted to capture the beauty of these first impressions, where beautiful humans in disguise can reveal the realities of our current times.



Bea Lamar
Ms. Hilton
Photography
2008



Bea Lamar
Pharaoh
Photography
2008

WeHo@25

R. Dean Larson

I am a photographer, born and raised in Southern California, and currently living and working in Hollywood. It wasn't until I reached college that I realized that Photography was the creative outlet I had been searching for. This realization led me to a 36-plus year career as a photography teacher for the Los Angeles Unified School District. It was a very fulfilling career with my students winning hundreds of awards and prizes in art competitions at the local, state, and national level. At the same time, I also pursued my own course as a free-lance and fine art photographer. Over the past 25 years, I have been in over 50 gallery shows, both solo and invitational exhibitions, as well as other group shows. I have recently retired from teaching to be a full time artist.

I have been a longtime fan of Hollywood's Glamour photography from the 1930's and 1940's. The work of George Hurrell and others was Black and White, very dramatic, and highly idealized. Much manipulation was done through retouching to achieve the desired results, and many iconic images came from this period. I have continued this tradition using the computer and related tools to retouch and manipulate my digital images. The IdealEstate series consists of Black and White photographs of Hollywood homes built from the late 1920's through the 1930's and '40's. I took digital photos and used the computer to retouch the image - I have excised distracting objects (garden hoses, newspapers, telephone lines, etc.), removed or subdued distracting elements on each side, and finally, removed the decorative color in the image so that it is shown in a black & white 'idealized' state. While the images are idealized visually, they don't have that welcoming 'lived in' feeling, and may even appear formidable or foreboding. The viewer is left to ponder the question of which is more attractive for their life – the Idealized or the Real. The homes are in my neighborhood, which is just adjacent to The City of West Hollywood. I have lived in this area for over 35 years and have come to appreciate the glamour that exists in West Hollywood. I have also been a member of the Los Angeles Art Association/Gallery 825 organization, have many friends in the area, and shop there frequently as well.



R. Dean Larson
Bungalow #7
Archival pigment print
2007



R. Dean Larson
Bungalow #69
Archival pigment print
2007

WeHo@25

Murray Lebowitz

As long as I can remember I've been drawing. In elementary school, I won a John Wanamaker medal for excellence in drawing and a Certificate of Merit for poster displays from the N.Y.C. Dept of Parks. In Junior High, I was allowed to spend two years on my own project (a mural in oil) instead of following the prescribed art curriculum. When I graduated from High School in 1941, I won a scholarship to the Art Students League of N.Y. At C.C.N.Y I majored in art, and returning from active duty (Army) for three years, completed my Bachelor of Science in Education cum laude in 1949. I attended Columbia for my M.A. and earned the Ph.D from N.Y.U. in 1970. I've taught at all levels (intermediate through university) and have exhibited in one-man and group shows in New York, Smithtown, California and Taipei, Taiwan. My work is included in private and corporate collection in New York, Delaware, California, Florida and Taiwan. I am also a member of L.A.A.A (825 Gallery, La Cienega Blvd.)

Over the years I have created traditional and non-traditional paintings—portraits, landscapes, figure compositions and still-lives. More recently I've completed a series of large paintings which I call "fugitive visions" – fleeting, barely discernible forms evolving from and into vaporous hues and colors, mysterious, haunting and hopeful. I have not tried consciously to create a "style". I work as the mood strikes me. So whether the work is traditional or non-traditional, I hope it evokes in at least some of its audience the same mystery, wonder, anguish, peace or hope which informed its creator. My relationship to West Hollywood traces back to before 1984 when my brother, the late Edward S. Lebowitz, vice president at William Morris Agency, introduced me to many of his friends and to establishments he frequented. Now, although I live in Culver City, I often visit Hugo's, the theatre in which Stella Adler taught and sometimes just walk the boulevard: all with great nostalgia of my late brother.



Murray Lebowitz
Fugitive Vision #3
Oil on canvas
2010

WeHo@25

Meg Madison

Meg Madison is a fine art photographer concerned with investigating image, and memory. She has been taking photographs for 20 years, exhibiting for 15, and is a graduate of San Francisco Film School. Her recent work **RIGHTSIZING NARRATIVE** explores our cultural visual Language of storytelling and was exhibited at the Kristi Engle Gallery in Los Angeles. Madison has lived in Los Angeles since 1988 always adjacent to West Hollywood. Kuntz Hardware is the only hardware store she knows., and her partner buys food at the West Hollywood Whole Foods, and Bristol Farms. Madison is a member of the Los Angeles Art Association to which she can credit her deviance from a commercial photographic career to tone of making art. **SURFACE STREETS** was shot traveling through the street of West Hollywood and Los Angeles during 2001.

Photographer Meg Madison took a cache of outdated Polaroid film and for a two-week period recorded every time she got in and out of her car while performing the daily driving chores that go along with being a mother of two and a part-time dog rescuer. Madison then labeled her Polaroids with the date and time and in some cases the purpose of her car trip (“for dog food,” “for more hair dye”) and then digitally enlarged the images into midsized prints. The result is a series of images that detail the ready vistas available from her car: from tail lights to a bent radio antenna, reflections in windows, parking lots – all the day to day stuff that most of us take for granted. But given the outdated film and then the digital enlargement of the images, these photos of driving ephemera take on an abstract, otherworldly quality.



Meg Madison
Surface Streets
Photography
2005

Courtesy of Kristi Engle Gallery

WeHo@25

Marisa Murrow

Marisa Murrow was born in Los Angeles. She received her Bachelors of Fine Arts from the Rhode Island School of Design. A traveler in her place of origin, Murrow collects visual information on site; producing small, intimate landscape paintings of trailer parks, swimming pools and the Southern California coastline. This body of work contains colors and light that are so specific to Los Angeles that they could be from nowhere else.

I paint and collect visual information on site; producing small, intimate portraits of mobile homes along the Southern California coast. On mountains sheltered from the rest of the city I direct my critical gaze at a trailer park. The aerial perspective from which I paint is an exploration of the shifting social landscape present in Los Angeles. We are neither here or there in this ambiguously flat yet dimensional landscape. There is no reference to an edge in the foreground, which causes the viewer to loom above the trailer park without the stability of knowing where he or she stands. This work resulted out of an unplanned experience where I packed all of my possessions into the car and moved out of my apartment. I felt completely vulnerable and unattached to the security I thought I had created. My work is about freedom. I paint the stuff people want to omit from their oceanfront properties; trailers, telephone wires, trash cans and rooftops. The visual rhythm of each trailer is designed to be a collection of abstract paintings of contemporary thought. I begin with a thin wash of burnt sienna allowing it to peek through to define edges of trees and sides of structures. This color also lends a warm temperature to the work, reflecting the heat this city experiences year round. Trailer parks are commonly perceived as gritty, unpretentious and rather low income means of shelter. The trailers depicted in this body of work face the Pacific Ocean like a captive audience, worshipping the waves and the sun. The viewer is offered a delightful protest to the endless search for connection to nature in this excessively materialistic setting. With the ocean at their front door for almost free, these homes on wheels need not roll away anytime soon.



Marisa Murrow

Façade

Oil on canvas

2010

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Hung Viet Nguyen

The salty scent of waves crashing, birds floating on invisible currents, colors gleaming in the bright Southern California sun, these are my inspirations. These occurrences are observed and felt during hikes along the coast, and then processed into semi-abstract expressions. My work is a visual expression of the senses rather than a literary representation of a landmark. These paintings do not represent the memory of a particular place, but they are meant to evoke sensual memories of moments past, whether on the land or by the ocean. This is accomplished with a complex process of layering oil paint. The body of the painting appears when I begin to put in the texture. Adding paint as well as scraping away, the textures build, and the colors are revealed. This time consuming process takes weeks to accomplish. Consequently, I work on several at one time, with them all finishing seemingly, at once. Once the textures are dry, I paint and glaze each area to obtain the final color I envisioned. I am always working with an almost impossible desire to match what I feel to what I can accomplish in paint. One can see the influence of many traditional art forms: woodblock print, Oriental scroll painting, ceramic art, mosaic, stained glass...this is because I want to recycle all the traditional arts (by theory), then create innovative new art, separate from the masses. One can see the influence of David Hockney, Chuck Close, Richard Diebenkorn, Picasso, Joan Miro, Gustav Klimt, Vincent Van Gogh... in my work, because it is natural process for an artist to develop his/her own style, as long as in the end, my paintings look like none of theirs. One can see the influence of my degree in biology but my work is far from biological. I am in my own way, an artist.



Hung Viet Nguyen

Coastal Sensation No. 27

Oil on canvas

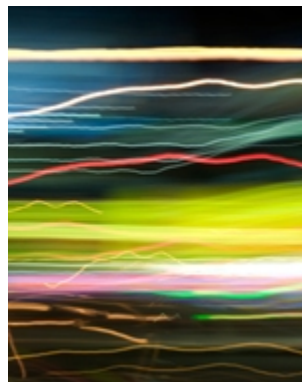
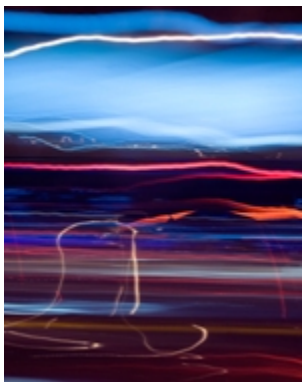
2010

WeHo@25

R. Nelson Parrish

R. Nelson Parrish approaches his art through the lens of what is natural versus what is man-made. Born and raised in Alaska, Parrish finds inspiration from the natural aesthetic of his home and from his current surroundings in southern California. This stems from his experiences with skiing, racing and surfing – that is, moving through landscapes at high speeds, which Parrish considers to be a calming, natural state. His work with color echoes this same experience. Parrish’s art cues off his observation that most people find speed to be unnatural or discomforting, yet they operate in a fast-paced global society. By laying brightly colored racing stripes, fiberglass, and resin – which signify the synthetic – on top of natural wood grain, Parrish’s art pieces frame the juxtaposition between nature and the man-made.

The Sunset Strip Motion Studies is a photographic body investigating a specific space. Through Parrish’s lens of the synthetic verse the natural, the iconic Sunset Strip landscape is appropriated as subject matter. By using long exposures with a camera affixed upon a vehicle, Parrish “cruised” up and down the Strip, creating hundreds of photographs. The result: a body of imagery that translates the nature of the Sunset Strip landscape experience. Parrish’s work pulls from Minimalism, Finish Fetish, and the Light and Space Movement while adding to that discourse. His wall works, totems and images push the definitions of painting, sculpture, and photography by being all and yet neither. Similarly, Parrish seeks to create a dialogue with his audience to answer the question of where the division lies between nature and the man-made.



R. Nelson Parrish
Sunset Strip Motion Study
Digital archive print
2010

WeHo@25

Cielo Pessione

Born in Rome (Italy), after finishing her degree at the Liceo Artistico, she completed her University studies with a doctoral degree in Modern Literature at the Sapienza University of Rome. Since 1983 she has worked as a designer and as an artist (primarily in fiber arts), exhibiting in numerous art exhibitions locally and internationally, completing textile installations and scenographic sets, creating soft sculptures and wearable objects, collaborating with costume makers from theater-television-movies, realizing art works for public spaces and organizing art exhibitions for public institutions. Currently she lives and works between Los Angeles and Umbria (Italy).

I desire to make that which I imagine into objects. That which I imagine is often something I feel is missing: an equilibrium outside of myself, forms driven by sense and function, beauty as an answer. I am seeking a connection, subtle but tenacious, with art of the past and its triumphs, with the greatness within its every expression, no matter how small. My work is centered on the ways in which a technique can follow and realize (materialize) that which the mind is thinking. Thus for me the only important thing is to focus in on what I am thinking and find the right tools to translate it into a visual form. I am fascinated by the simplest of tools and techniques, whose history is tied to historical settings for women and domestic matters, but thanks to their potential, can emerge from such an intimate setting and carry the meaning of thoughts, actions and proposals which go beyond into a different dimension; that of art and its public, shared values.



Cielo Pessione
Pandora's Self-Portrait
Textile
2008

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Burton Rein

My current series is derived from multiple perspectives of curved lines, often converging or diverging, which serve as the basis for generating bold curvilinear patterns. The various patterns are combined and recombined into vibrant, swirling, surging, and at times vertiginous compositions. I am inspired by the action of powerful forces such as volcanic eruptions, tornadoes, and hurricanes. Extra terrestrially: images of supernovas, spiral galaxies, solar flares, Jupiter's turbulent atmosphere, and Saturn's orbiting rings all fascinate me. Within an art historical context, I have drawn from multiple "isms" including Surrealism, Cubism, Futurism, Abstract Expressionism, Minimalism, and Conceptual Art.



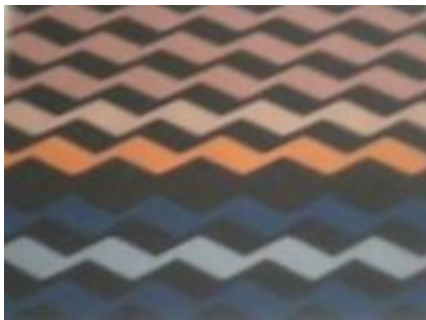
Burton Rein
Full Tilt
Oil on wood panel
2009

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Barbara Robertson

Barbara Robertson was born in Denver, Colorado in 1954. She currently resides in West Hollywood. Mostly self-taught, she has taken courses in Watercolor, Outdoor Watercolor, Children's Book Illustration, and Color Theory at UCLA Extension. Her paintings have been shown in art exhibitions in Colorado and at restaurants in Hollywood, California, where she has had a "one-person" show. She works in watercolor and acrylics primarily, but always with nature as her main resource-either her subject matter or inspiration for color palettes in a painting.



Barbara Robertson
Butterfly Wings No. 3
Acrylic on watercolor paper
1992

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Jose Rodriguez Jr.

29 year old New Jersey native, Jose Rodriguez Jr. has been obsessively creating art since childhood. One of his earliest memories includes being yelled at for designing a mosaic made from paper scraps on the kitchen floor. To his parents' credit, Jose was always making grand exhibition pieces in awkward places. He has continued indulging in various methods of art-making since and went on to attend Boston University and California State University in Northridge to further pursue his creative passions. While at Northridge, he discovered the very young and innovative art form of graphic design. Since then, he has been determined to push the limits of his imagination by using the latest digital techniques. Jose lives and works in Los Angeles with his partner of 4 years, Bryan, and their two dogs, Dexter and Sugar.

I am sad, disappointed and most of all angry. I am sad for the families of the recent string of bully-related victims who felt they had no other option but suicide. I am disappointed in the men and women of our school systems for turning a blind eye to cruelty. And I am most of all angry at the perpetrators for their ignorance, intolerance and general inhumanity. It is during these times, however, that I am reminded of how lucky we are in L.A. to have a place like West Hollywood. A place where an individual can be themselves and still be treated with basic human dignity, West Hollywood embodies the hope for a better future. "The Gold Standard" of all communities across the globe, Weho truly is "one of a kind."



Jose Rodriguez Jr.

One of a Kind

3D modeling

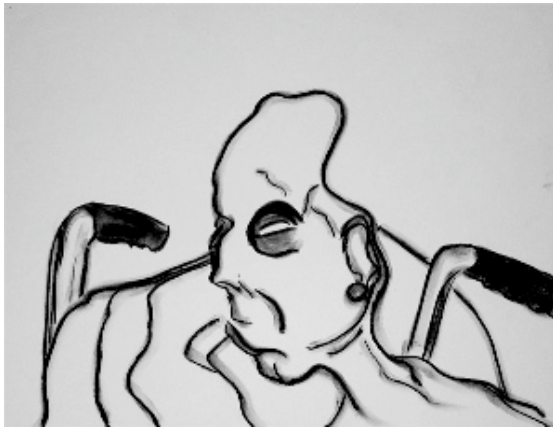
2010

WeHo@25

Ken Sherman

Ken has studied figure drawing at UCLA for over two years, and continues to participate in numerous private drawing sessions. In addition to drawing, Ken is President of Ken Sherman & Associates, a literary agency established in 1989. An agent for more than twenty years, Ken is also a popular and accomplished speaker, having taught and lectured extensively at venues including UCLA, USC, Loyola Marymount University, both in New Orleans and Los Angeles, and numerous writers' conferences across America. Since graduating from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in psychology, Ken has returned numerous times to the classroom to teach his course, "The Business of Writing for Screen, Television and the Publishing Worlds," at both USC and UCLA. He maintains strong community involvement as well, serving as an Arts and Cultural Affairs Commissioner for the City of West Hollywood, as a founding member of the British Academy of Film and Television/Los Angeles (BAFTA), and as a member of both the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and the International Advisory Board of the Christopher Isherwood Foundation.

This drawing is of my mother as she lay dying. By drawing her using simple charcoal on paper, I was able to harness the horror of sitting next to her during the last days of her life. My objective was to capture the disassociation of time and endings without losing the emotion of our last moments together. On the day before she died, when she was heavily doped-up on morphine, she suddenly looked up at me with clear eyes and said with great lucidity and curiosity, "How do you choose the lines you use?" —Here are some of those lines.



Ken Sherman
H3
Charcoal on paper
2008

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Kum Whee Shin

Not <daybreak> merely as the beginning, but <daybreak> as the peak or <daybreak> as extinction embodied. What simultaneously contains the meaning of destruction is dual. My work is ambivalent as if being monotonous with seeming to be complex, and as if being revealed space, which will need to be continuously appreciated with seeming to be simple. In order to specifically express ambivalence that this daybreak has, the space within the screen comes to form the dual structure. In other words, the line or color, which shows material, is forming the contradistinctive relationship with a color tone, which is soaked deeply in the screen. The color tone, which was expressed with reiteration in knife or brush, gives a feeling of being expressed externally. This seems to be separated and floated from the surface due to positive property of matter in material, and also gives an impression as if being stick firmly on the surface sometimes.



Kum Whee Shin

Daybreak

Mixed media

2009

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Gina Stepaniuk

Bachelor of Fine Arts Ontario College of Art and Design University 1982;
Master of Fine Arts Claremont Graduate University 2009; Nominated Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant in Painting; Received 2009 Claremont Graduate University President's Art Award for outstanding work. Exhibits throughout Southern California and Canada; Served several years on the board of directors at the Los Angeles Art Association/Gallery 825, including two years as president.

I have a very strong connection the city of West Hollywood having lived in several rentals in the city and currently residing on Laurel Avenue, just several yards short of its boundary. I am fully engaged and lucky to be able to take advantage of the many wonderful services and businesses that West Hollywood has to offer – including the much-appreciated bike lanes, pedestrian friendly and safe neighborhoods, the farmers markets, and the diverse and colorful community that makes the city unique. And I love the all-inclusive attitude the city always promotes to anyone who attends the many sponsored events. The city of Los Angeles could take many cues from West Hollywood in fostering community toward creating a great city. Presently my thoughts and work are influenced by the perception of landscape. How it has forever changed in our collective hearts and minds. An awareness of the earth's peril has lodged itself like a deep ache in the gut. And it's shifting our perception of landscape to that of Earth as Gaia – the quintessential Whole. Deconstructing what is familiar and known in order to create a holistic observation of landscape as Earth. Focusing on micro and macro perspectives. From a far, far distance and extremely up-close everything is fundamentally the same.



Gina Stepaniuk
Waiting in the Sky
Oil on panel
2010

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For more information about arts and cultural programming in the City of West Hollywood
visit www.weho.org/arts or call 323/848-6883.