It’s In Your Head
Approaches to Likeness
Selections from the 2006 National Drawing Annual

v18
Mission Statement:

Manifest enhances the role of art and design in society by cultivating and focusing the transformative power of creativity in the visual arts. Manifest benefits people in the global and local community, including professionals, students, and the public, by creating quality-centered experiences focused on contemporary visual arts and related activities in the context of creative exploration.
MANIFEST is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization
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National Drawing Annual
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Approaches to Likeness
Ruth Adams
Jessica Bechtel
Andrew Dailey
Gary Duehr
Rick Finn
Greg Jones
Collin Moses
Michael Nichols
Tim Parsley
Brent Payne
Rebecca Weller
Our jury for *It’s In Your Head* received a flood of over 300 entries from 150 artists in 25 states and 5 countries including Canada, England, Israel, Russia, and the U.S. This by far breaks all records for exhibit submissions at Manifest. I cannot say for certain what caused this unpredictable and delightful jump in submissions. However, we suspected a show exploring traditional *and* non-traditional approaches to portraiture would prove interesting. Indeed it has.

We identify each other primarily by using the head and face as reference. We speak to each other’s heads, and from our own. The head is the grand central station of all our worldly activities, even for, as many suggest, our sexuality. The head is not just the proverbial superficial cover of a book. Rather it is the cockpit for our intellectual database, our conceptual drive train, which is the truest hinge between our better and worse sides as individuals and as a specie.

In the head, after all, reside the “windows into the soul”. If there is such a thing as divinity, then it’s in our heads. It follows then that the opposite would also be true. And if there exists any means of judging such intimate glimpses, it’s in *your* head.

To narrow over 300 entries down to 18 is no simple matter. Nevertheless our jury and curatorial process offers up these twelve artists’ insights from inside their own heads into yours.

Jason Franz
Jessica Bechtel
Cincinnati, Ohio
Held
Oil on panel, 48" x 36", 2006
Bolts
acrylic on panel, 7” x 7”, 2006

Andrew Dailey
centerville, ohio
Andrew Dailey
Centerville, Ohio
Hammer Smooch
Acrylic on panel, 7" x 7", 2006
Self-Portrait With Root Canal
pigment print on watercolor paper
20" x 30", 2006

Gary Duehr
somerville, massachusetts
Farmer Heim
reduction woodcut, 10” x 10”, 2006

Rick Finn
cincinnati, ohio
Greg Jones
sylvania, ohio
14 1/4" X 14 1/4" Square
oil on canvas, 48" x 48", 2006
Ted Kauflin  
cincinnati, ohio  
Transformation  
digital metallic print on photographic paper, 12” x 8”, 2007
Collin Moses
Bloomington, Indiana

We Are Not Stoneware, 19" x 13" x 14", 2006
Subsist
pastel on paper, 24” x 18”, 2006
Michael Nichols
bowling green, kentucky
Celia
pastel on paper, 20" x 15", 2006
Tim Parsley
Cincinnati, Ohio
Self-Portrait with Hat
Graphite on paper, 14" x 11", 2007
Self-Portrait in Black Shirt
oil on muslin mounted on panel, 7" x 5"
2006
Brent Payne
Oxford, Ohio
Self-Portrait
Oil on muslin mounted on panel
6" x 4", 2006
Being
Rebecca Weller
cincinnati, ohio
oil on canvas, 60” x 48”, 2005
Felice Grodin
Jennifer Jenkins
Marc Leone
Todd McGill
Kevin O’Grady
Brent Thomas
Travis Townsend
Kerry Walton

miami beach, florida
savannah, georgia
mesa, arizona
athens, ohio
st. michael’s, arizona
institute, west virginia
lexington, kentucky
leicestershire, england
Selections from the 2006 National Drawing Annual
curated by Jason Franz

Selections from the 2006 National Drawing Annual
The National Drawing Annual project was conceived as an effort to support the recognition, documentation, and publication of excellent, current, and relevant works of drawing in the United States and beyond. It is an extension of Manifest’s Drawing Center mission, which promotes, features, and explores drawing as a rich and culturally significant art form through the pursuit of scholarly activities.

For the 2006 NDA Manifest received over 350 works from 121 artists in 27 states and six countries. The exhibit-in-print publication will include 68 works by 33 artists from 16 states and four countries, including England, Russia, Scotland, and the U.S.

This second edition of the publication and corresponding Selections exhibit marks a key event for Manifest and the NDA. If two points make a line, and a line possesses a trajectory, then with the NDA in its second year we now have a clear idea of where the project is headed long term. With a significant increase in the number of entries, artists selected, and works included, the NDA is proving quite successful. Furthermore, the quality of work continues to meet the very high standards of our jury, which involves a multi-part and intense process supported by professional and academic advisors.

Interestingly, this year’s annual will contain more abstraction than the prior year. And this Selections exhibit reflects that trend, with only two out of eight works containing recognizable subject matter.

All eight works included in this exhibit suggest systems and organic processes through which things are changed or in the process of changing. This underlying theme also permeates the entire NDA project, and is for the most part a coincidental unity that arose out of the blind scoring of our jury based on quality (not personal preference). We view this, at least initially, as being indicative of the foremost thinking of contemporary artists as they approach drawing as an art form.

These eight works, by eight artists from Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia, and Leicestershire, England are offered as prime representatives of the 68 exceptional works of drawing included in the 2006 National Drawing Annual.

Jason Franz
Untitled (01)
ink on Mylar, 24” x 36”, 2005

Felice Grodin
miami beach, florida
Jennifer Jenkins
Savannah, Georgia
Arranging an Aftermath
Machine embroidery, monoprint, India ink
On silk, 25" x 31" x 3", 2006
Marc Leone
mesa, arizona
Crater #2001
graphite on paper, 32" x 32", 2006
Todd McGill
Athens, Ohio
Connective
Graphite on paper, 22" x 30", 2006
**Blonde Marauder**

watercolor and paper, 12” x 9”, 2006
2006
Graphite and digital output, 31.5” × 24”
Study Hard Boys
**Floater**
permanent marker, ink, and acrylic paint on paper and wood, 14” x 14” x 3”, 2006
Kerry Walton, Leicestershire, England

Triptych 1

Cartridge paper, black ink, and tracing paper, 8.5" x 12", 2006