manifest31

MANIFEST
CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY
AND DRAWING CENTER

volume 31

TERRA FIRMA
A Survey of Approaches to Landscape

MANIFEST is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization
TERRA FIRMA
A Survey of Approaches to Landscape

November 7 - December 5, 2008

Hale Allen
Barry Andersen
Kevin Bell
Stephen Cartwright
Charlene Doiron Reinhart
Ivan Fortushniak
Ricki Klages
Gerard Lange
Marc Leone
Stephen Mishol
Nancy Nichols
Quintin Owens
Isaac Powell
Ajean Ryan
Jerry Schutte
Ted Somogyi
Steven Walker
Melissa Wilkinson
McCrystle Wood

Curated by Jason Franz
Manifest’s first group show and call to artists for season five focuses on interpretations of a theme not yet thoroughly explored by the gallery. Landscape can be so very widely interpreted and expressed. From the most observational depictions of geographic locations to conceptual or nearly abstract spaces, landscapes are generally considered works representing real or imagined ‘land’ or natural spaces. However, even larger scale architectural conceptions, or combinations of the natural and man-made are often categorized as such. With Terra Firma Manifest presents a wide variety of contemporary works that explore the notion of landscape, including works of drawing, sculpture, painting, digital imaging, and photography.

Over 340 artists from 41 states and 12 countries submitted more than 900 works for consideration to Terra Firma. A rigorous ten-person jury and curatorial process resulted in 26 works by 19 artists from 14 states being selected for inclusion in the exhibit.

Terra Firma reveals a poetic yet somewhat cynical view of landscape by the artists presented here. Not surprisingly, many refer to the human impact on nature; to change, domination, manipulation, and even guilt. This collection of works provides a glimpse into the psyche of people living a contemporary life on Earth. This is supplied by the ‘Artist’ as one tapped into the collective point of view as a member of the global tribe, the mass of passengers on this planet. Certainly the exhibit is filled with both formal and illustrative beauty, but it is the underlying content that provokes consideration, rethinking, and a sense that Terra Firma has a secret to share.
Hale Allen (Philadelphia, PA)

*Transmittance*, oil on canvas, 40” x 42”, 2006
Barry Andersen (Fort Thomas, KY)

*Connemara Peat*, photography 10” x 14”, 2004
Kevin Bell (Missoula, MT)

*Cars*, oil on canvas, 37” x 31” 2007
Ditch, oil on canvas, 27” x 45” 2008
Stephen Cartwright (Urbana, IL)

Lost Landscape (Fort Peck), acrylic, 11” x 20” x 1.5”, 2008
Stephen Cartwright (Urbana, IL)

Lost Landscape (Sakakawea), acrylic, 15” x 43” x 1”, 2008
Charlene Doiron Reinhart (Hayward, CA)
Plein Hair, coil built ceramic, terra sigillata, 12" x 9" x 6", 2008
Cruel Cut, coil built ceramic, terra sigillata, 16" x 10" x 7", 2008
Ivan Fortushniak (Indiana, PA)

*Water's Edge*, oil on panel and collage, 17” x 23”, 2008
Ricki Klages (Laramie, WY)

*Bogno: Matches*, oil on panel, 24" x 24", 2007
Ricki Klages (Laramie, WY)

*Glastonbury: Apples*, oil on panel, 24” x 24”, 2007
Lee Bay: Glass, oil on panel, 24" x 24", 2007
Gerard Lange (Wilson, NC)

*Divorce*, photography and mixed media, 40” x 60”, 2007
Marc Leone (Erlanger, KY)

*Carbon and Crust #21*, carbon, graphite and paint on canvas, 60" x 72", 2004
We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.

- Native American Proverb
A few minutes ago every tree was excited, bowing to the roaring storm, waving, swirling, tossing their branches in glorious enthusiasm like worship. But though to the outer ear these trees are now silent, their songs never cease.

- John Muir
Stephen Mishol (Lowell, MA)

*TAMP*, vinyl paint on paper, 18.6” x 19.9”, 2008
Nancy Nichols (Terre Haute, IN)
*Pandrosos*, oil on panel, 10” x 10”, 2006
Eriophoros, oil on panel, 10" x 10", 2006
Quintin Owens (Lubbock, TX)

Monoculture, green low fire clay, grog, latex, seed, wood, 36” x 60” x 6”, 2008
Isaac Powell (Natchitoches, LA)

On The Land, acrylic, oil, graphite on panel, 37" x 30" x 6", 2008
Ajean Ryan (Fort Collins, CO)

*Mesa*, Fabric, lichen pins, cotton, 12” x 9” x 9”, 2008
Jerry Schutte (Tempe, AZ)

*Buenna Vista Road*, oil on canvas, 24” x 24”, 2008
Ted Somogyi (San Francisco, CA)

*On This Date*, ink, combined process on styrene, 10” x 24”, 2008
Steven Walker (Westerville, OH)
Frodson Tractor, oil on panel, 11” x 14”, 2008
Melissa Wilkinson (Woodway, TX)

*Untitled (Flooded House)*, ink on mylar, 18" x 24", 2008
Flood, oil on panel, 22" x 30", 2008
McCrystle Wood (Cincinnati, OH)

*Jardin Femme: Printemps (springtime)*, digital, 15” x 30”, 2008
About Manifest

Founded in May of 2004, Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization headquartered in the urban neighborhood of East Walnut Hills in Cincinnati, Ohio. The elegant street level exhibition space is minutes away from downtown Cincinnati, and the numerous academic institutions of higher learning in the region. It is also within easy walking distance of a diversely populated historic neighborhood with residents from all walks of life. The galleries are free and open to the public five hours a day, five days a week, presenting works by students and professionals from around the world. The Manifest Drawing Center Studio is located in the nearby Walnut Hills Essex Studios Complex.

Manifest is supported by grants and public donations and has the goal to support student professionalism, integrate the arts into the urban residential community and raise the bar on artistic standards. The mission also includes the exploration of the relationship between art and design, as well as the ongoing support and display of drawing in all its various forms.

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.
Executive Director
Jason Franz

Assistant Director
Tim Parsley

Administrative Assistant
Laura McNeel

Gallery Assistant
Elaine Potter

Board of Directors
Katherine Dintenfass
Jason Franz
Tamera Lenz Muente
Brigid O’Kane
Andy Schaub

Manifest Associates
Robert Anderson
Kevin Muente
Trevor Ponder
Ruth Wise

Interns
Paige Chadwick
Meredith Christophel
Laura Fisher (Senior Intern)
Aubrey Kelly
Allison Lowe
Nicole Martinez
Anna Martinovich (Senior Intern)
Amanda Nurre (Senior Intern)