MANIFEST



TERRA FIRMA



volume 31

TERRA FIRMA

A Survey of Approaches to Landscape

MANIFEST is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

MANIFEST VOLUME THIRTY-ONE

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Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center

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> First Printing - November 2008 Designed by Jason Franz Printed by PrintPelican.com

Cover image by Marc Leone Back cover image by Jerry Schutte

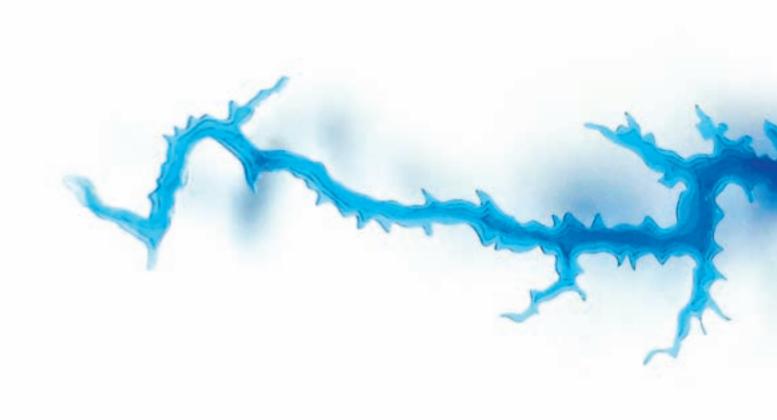
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TERRA FIRMA A Survey of Approaches to Landscape

Curated by Jason Franz

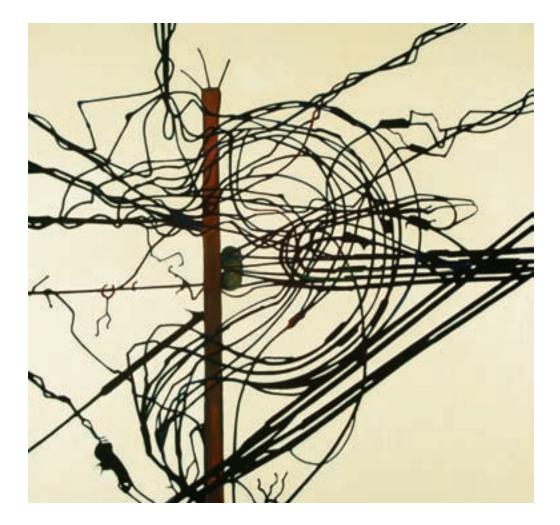
November 7 - December 5, 2008

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

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.

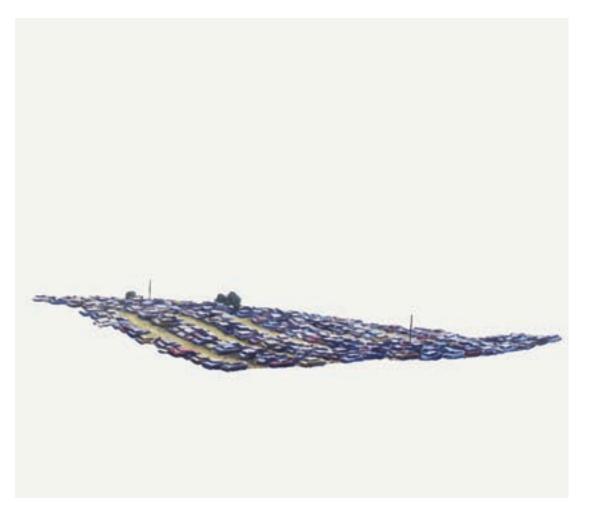
Terra Firma reveals a poetic yet somewhat cynical view of landscape by the artists presented here. Not surprisingly, many refer to the human impact on nature; to change, domination, manipulation, and even guilt. This collection of works provides a glimpse into the psyche of people living a contemporary 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*.







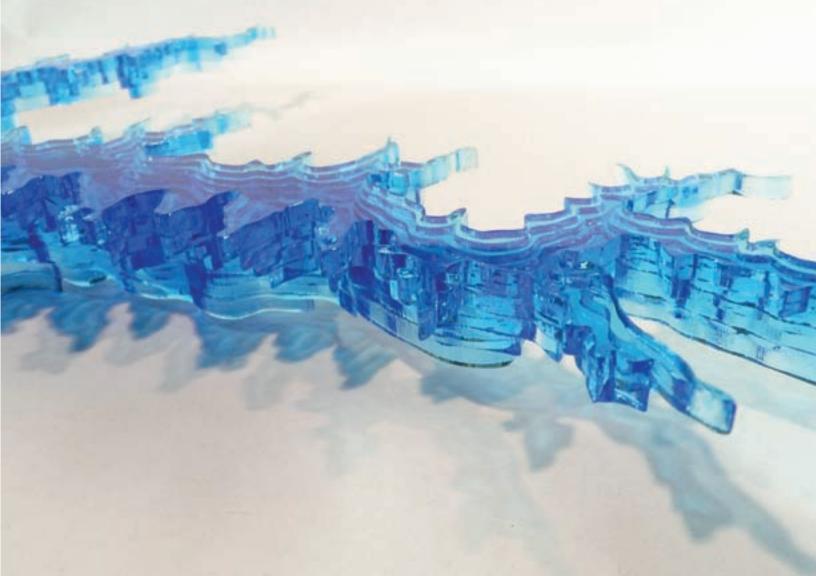




Kevin Bell (Missoula, MT) *Cars*, oil on canvas, 37" x 31" 2007

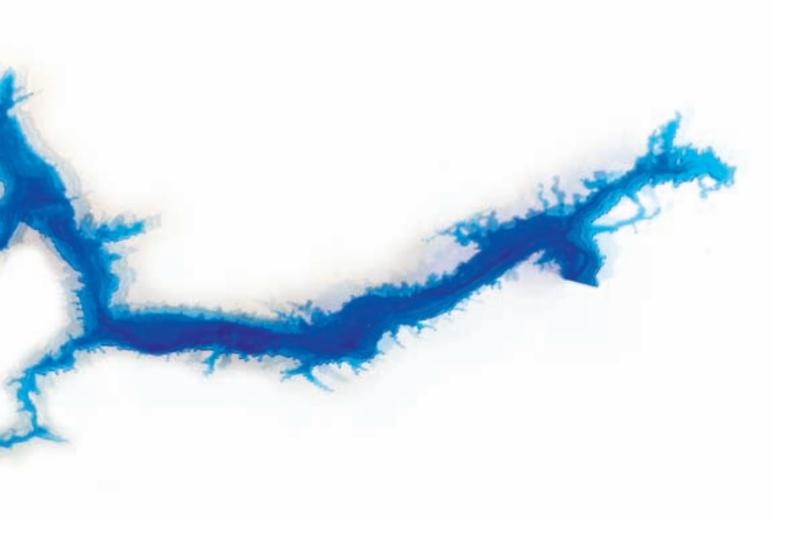














Charlene Doiron Reinhart (Hayward, CA) **Plein Hair**, coil built ceramic, terra sigillata, 12" x 9" x 6", 2008







Ricki Klages (Laramie, WY) **Bogno: Matches**, 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



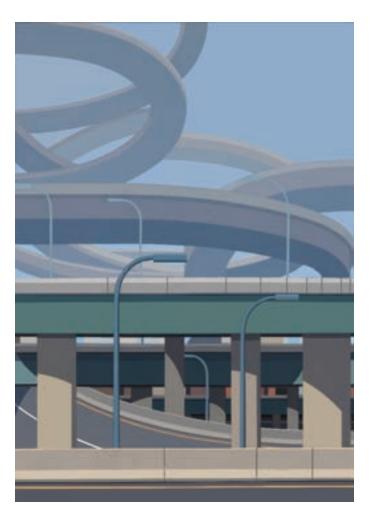
We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.

- 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



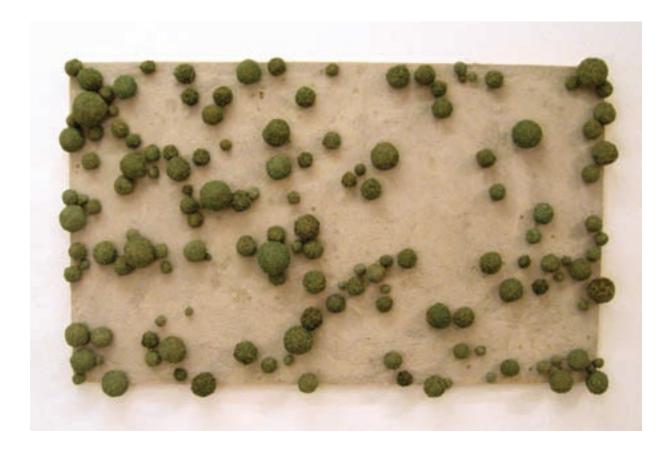




Nancy Nichols (Terre Haute, IN) *Pandrosos*, oil on panel, 10" x 10", 2006

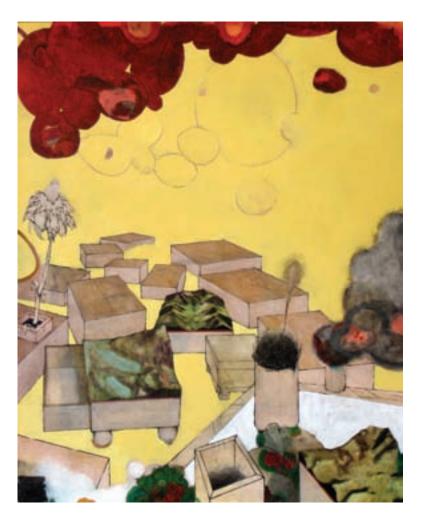






Quintin Owens (Lubbock, TX) $\pmb{Monoculture},$ green low fire clay, grog, latex, seed, wood, 36" x 60" x 6", 2008

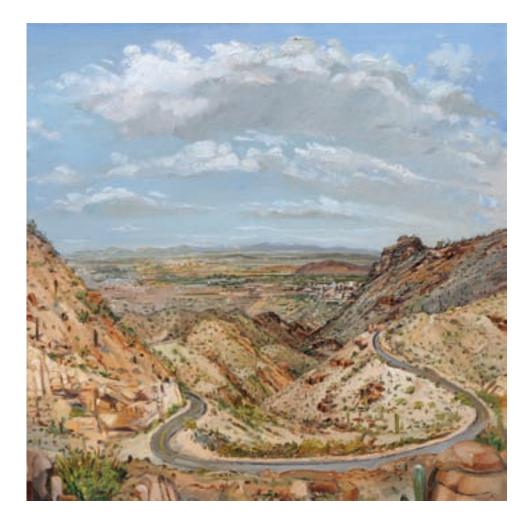




Isaac Powell (Natchitoches, LA) **On The Land**, acrylic, oil, graphite on panel, $37'' \times 30'' \times 6''$, 2008





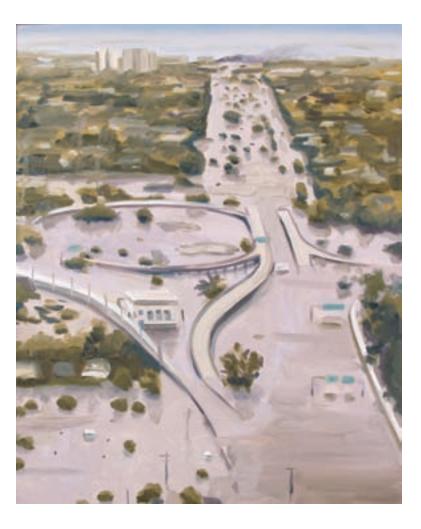




Ted Somogyi (San Francisco, CA) **On This Date**, ink, combined process on styrene, 10" x 24", 2008













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.

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MANIFEST CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY AND DRAWING CENTER

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