CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY
AND DRAWING CENTER

MANIFEST

vol. 6

CRUFT
by Robert Spahr

Drawings
by Kevin T. Kelly
MANIFEST vol. 6

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Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center
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Selections from:

CRUFT by Robert Spahr
and
Drawings by Kevin T. Kelly

September 30 – October 28, 2005

Curated by Jason Franz
Digital Information in the Age of Networked Terrorism or:
How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Leftovers

In the age of networked terrorism
when our electronic communications are routinely monitored
when our right to alternative opinions is routinely questioned
when our right to privacy is routinely at risk

I choose to make art
not with my hands
not with traditional materials

I choose to use the tools of the age
writing automated scripts that harvest information from the Internet
processing 0’s and 1’s into hexadecimal colors to create a new image
calling these digital leftovers 'Cruft'

In the age of networked terrorism
where my reality does not match the reality of our elected officials
where lies become true when they are endlessly repeated
where elections are fixed
where CIA operatives are outed
where foreign nationals are tortured

In the age of networked terrorism
where criminal acts are business as usual

In the age of networked terrorism
where fear is created
where pandering to the masses is rewarded

I choose to ask
who controls the images?
who is allowed to speak?
who is silenced?
who worships the most?
who salutes the longest?
whose truth is your truth?

Cruft
/kruhft/

1. n. An unpleasant substance. The dust that gathers under your bed is cruft.
2. n. The results of shoddy construction.
3. vt. from 'hand cruft', pun on 'hand craft'
4. n. Excess; superfluous junk; used esp. of redundant or superseded code.

All Cruft images in this catalog represent 8” x 12” archival inkjet prints on watercolor paper.
Saddam's sons killed in fierce battle.
Hostage: We talked

God and pancakes
Selections from:

Drawings by Kevin T. Kelly

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I’ve always viewed the process of drawing as a means to an end, rather than the end itself. However, drawing plays a major role in my creative process and is of paramount importance. It is the primary vehicle I use to get from the initial idea to the finished painting. Drawing is an elusive term and difficult to define, but it’s parameters encompass virtually every stage in the development of my imagery. It is perhaps more a mental than physical process, in that the act of drawing is really a state of refining. These refinements occur incrementally throughout various stages which initially include collage, sketching in graphite and colored pencil, and then ultimately, “drawing with tape” and cutting masks with an x-acto knife when painting. From the preliminary sketches to the canvas, every stage involves drawing, because the image is in a state of flux until the final coat of varnish is applied.

For me, art should be made for strong eyes. Not some ethereal, contemplative entity that begs or cajoles, but more akin to the sharpened end of a stick, demanding one’s immediate attention. A veritable assault of the senses, both viscerally and cerebrally. It can be seductive, cynical, even humorous, but always deadly serious in it’s intent and execution.

Kevin T. Kelly
September 12, 2005
Allison Trentelman, (Belfast, Maine), *Mandala 194*, archival inkjet pigment print, 12” x 12”, 2004
Allison Trentelman, (Belfast, Maine), *Mandala 246*, archival inkjet pigment print, 12” x 12”, 2004
Allison Trentelman, (Belfast, Maine), *Mandala 369*, archival inkjet pigment print, 12” x 12”, 2004
Allison Trentelman, (Belfast, Maine), *Mandala 461*, archival inkjet pigment print, 12” x 12”, 2005
Roscoe Wilson, (Fairfield, Ohio), *Man in a Hole*, graphite and oil on paper, 29” x 19” x 7”, 2005
Roscoe Wilson, (Fairfield, Ohio), *Playground*, graphite and oil on paper, 18” x 28” x 7”, 2005
The Mission of
Manifest Creative Research Gallery
and Drawing Center

A Not-For-Profit Corporation

Founded in May of 2004, the Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center is located in East Walnut Hills in Cincinnati, Ohio, occupying the formerly vacant storefront property of 2727 Woodburn Ave. minutes away from downtown Cincinnati, School for the Creative and Performing Arts, Northern Kentucky University, Art Academy of Cincinnati, University of Cincinnati, and Xavier University.

Mission Statement:
Manifest’s goal as a non-profit organization is to serve as a venue for the display and experience of insightful, thought provoking art and design, as well as to function as a hub for creative research and innovation at all levels of artistic endeavor. Manifest’s location in the urban neighborhood of East Walnut Hills was chosen to take advantage of the community’s own long range plan (06 Vision 2010) to guide the revitalization of the area, in part, by incorporating the arts. Manifest is committed to high academic standards, and seeks to engage the community at that level.

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