

MANIFEST™ v61

TEXTUALITY

| INK and AIR

| PROCESS: Drawings by David Kassan



MANIFEST™

CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY
AND DRAWING CENTER

volume 61

TEXTUALITY

INK and AIR

Works of Drawing, Painting, and Photography

PROCESS

Drawings by David Kassan

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

MANIFEST VOLUME SIXTY-ONE

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First Printing - March 2012
Designed by Jason Franz
Printed by PrintPelican.com

Cover image by Van Chu
Back cover image by David Kassar

THANK YOU!

Manifest's 2011-2012 season
is supported by operating support funding from:



The NLT FOUNDATION





March 9 - April 6, 2012

TEXTUALITY

Linda Carreiro
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

TyRuben Ellingson
Chandler, Arizona

Margaret Fletcher
Auburn, Alabama

Skye Gilkerson
Baltimore, Maryland

Pato Hebert
Los Angeles, California

Kenn Kotara
Asheville, North Carolina

Carole P. Kunstadt
New York, New York

Alison McNulty
Kaiserslautern, Germany

Robin Miller
Savannah, Georgia

Rob Tarbell
Crozet, Virginia

Adam White
Louisville, Kentucky

Margaret Whiting
Waterloo, Iowa

Ethan Worden
Oakland, California

An International Exhibit of Works Incorporating Text or Letterforms

Not long after humanity began drawing, drawings evolved into writing. Pictures became symbols, abstraction blossomed, and language became visual. Two branches, sharing one root, carried forward people's ideas, feelings, and plans. The visual and the verbal arts shared the role of encapsulating civilization's data. And they continue to do so today, in so many wondrous and varied ways. TEXTUALITY is an exhibit that inquires into the overlap of these two branches, seeking examples of where the verbal is made visual, where language returns into image.

Submissions to this competitive exhibit were expected to range from the straightforward, to works that were abstract, fragmented, or in other ways surprising or significantly processed away from recognition. Manifest was eager to see just how artists make work of any media or genre using text or letter forms as a significant element.

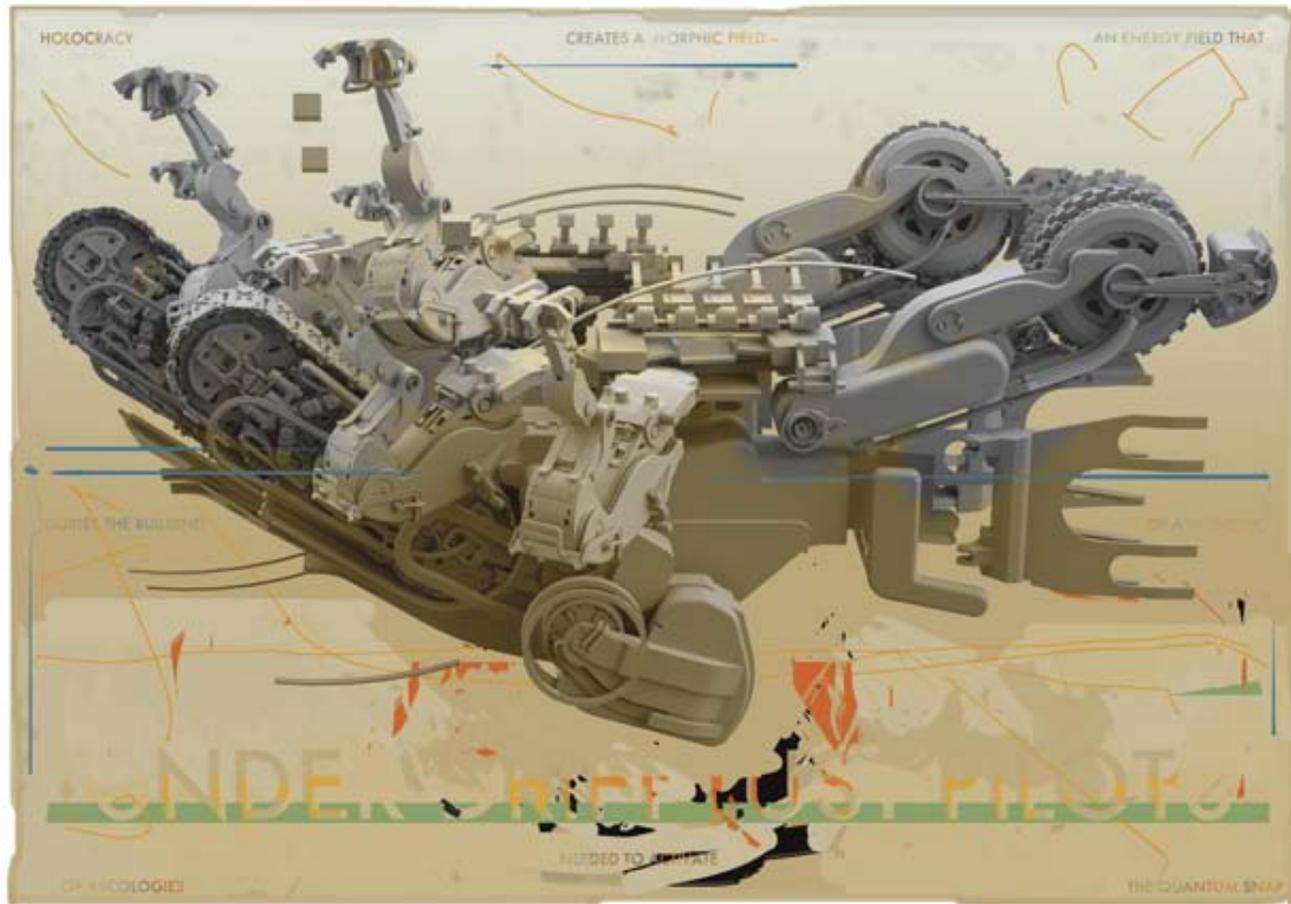
For this exhibit 331 artists from 41 states and 13 countries submitted 835 works for consideration. Fifteen works by these 13 artists from Alabama, Arizona, California, Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, Virginia, Canada, and Germany were selected for presentation in the gallery and catalog.





Linda Carreiro, Calgary, Canada

Poetry Skins, excised Shoji paper, 50" x 31", 2010



TyRuben Ellington, Chandler, Arizona

Morphic Drift, digital print on hand-prepared paper, 19" x 27", 2011



Margaret Fletcher, Auburn, Alabama

Blue Field 5.3, encaustic, 9.75" x 9.75" x 1", 2011



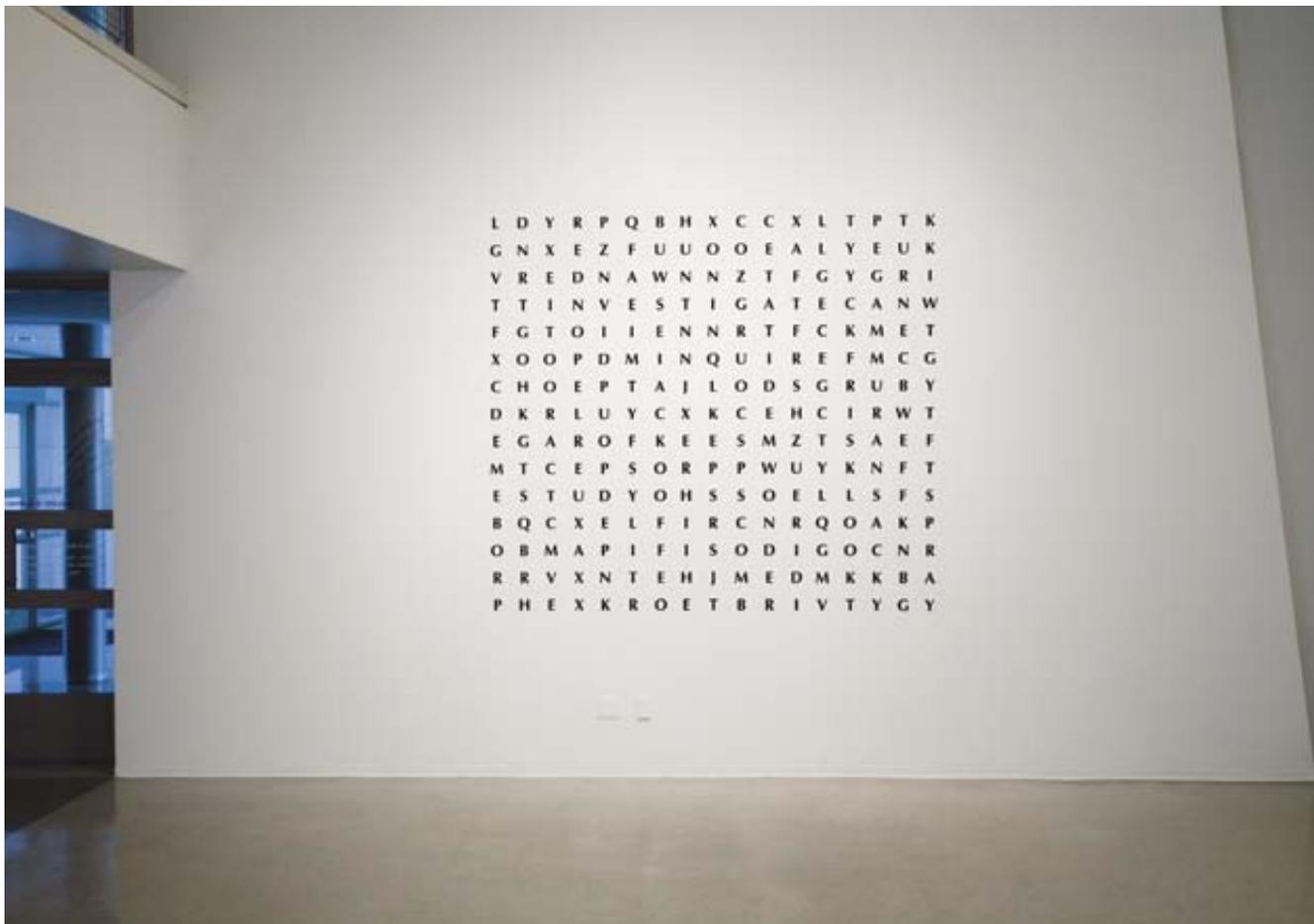
Margaret Fletcher, Auburn, Alabama

Vapor 1.2, encaustic, 6" x 6" x 2", 2009



Skye Gilkerson, Baltimore, Maryland

Conversation Abstraction, hand-cut magazine pages, 8" x 10", 2011



Pato Hebert, Los Angeles, California

39 Synonyms for Search, vinyl, 72" x 96", 2010



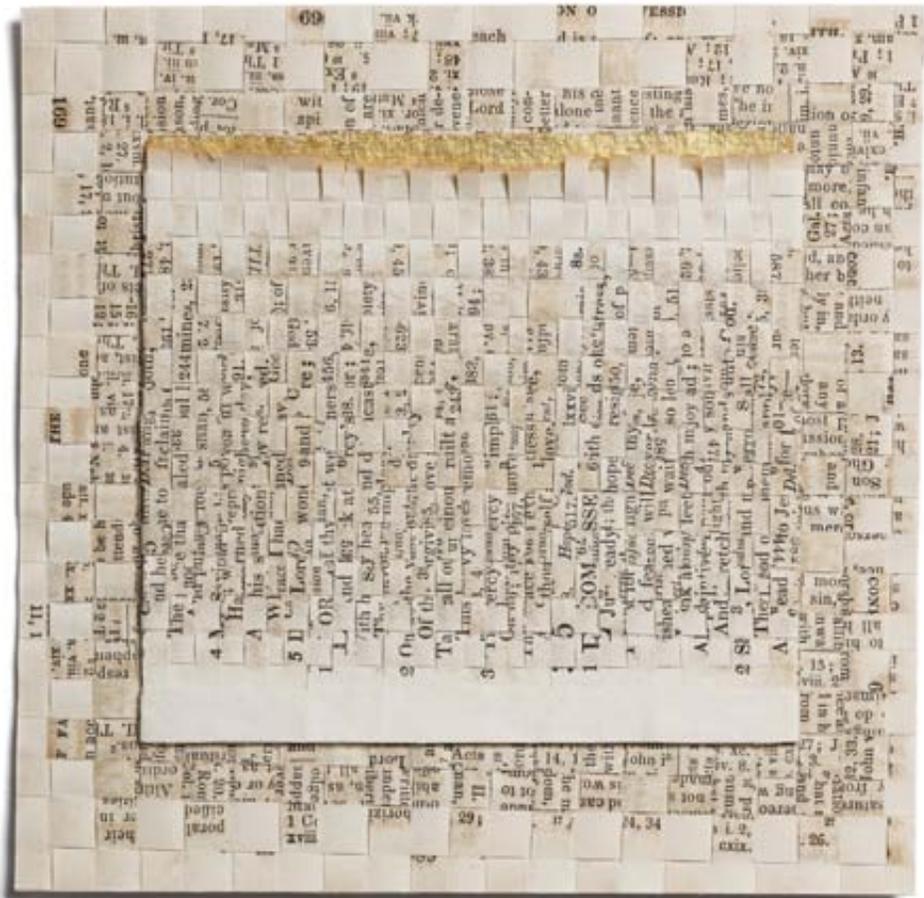
Pato Hebert, Los Angeles, California

24 Synonyms for Acceptance, vinyl, 72" x 48", 2010



Kenn Kotara, Asheville, North Carolina

The Sleep Of My Woven Eternity, paper, 21" x 21", 2010



Carole P. Kunstadt, New York, New York

Sacred Poem LV, gold leaf, paper: pages from Parish Psalmody dated 1844, 5.5" x 5.5", 2009





Alison McNulty, Kaiserslautern, Germany

Smudge from Copying G Bataille's "Critical Dictionary" Entry, "Formless", Over Itself Until it was Committed to Memory, plywood, paint, graphite, 6" x 3" x .75", 2007



Rob Tarbell, Crozet, Virginia

Ghost of My Friends: Rob Tarbell,
smoke, archival pigment print, wood, 36" x 28", 2011

... ER, CLOSER THE TWO SHIPS COME... TH...
E! THE BOW OF THE STEAMER SCRAPES PAINT
FROM THE LINER'S HULL... BUT BO...

STRUCTURE... WILL...
CAVE... IN...
SUDDENLY,
HE TORTURE
SCIENTIST
ING
AF

AND THROBING OF ITS M...
TIONS AND GEARS WERE
COMMUNICATING WITH THE...
... FOR YOU SEE, DR. LARO
COVERED THE SECRET OF

AN OCEAN
LINER! WE'RE
GOING TO HIT!

WHOMP... YES...
GIVE ALERT...
BEFORE IT IS TOO

THERE, YOU SEE!
NOW JUST RELAX,
DR. LARO, AND--

THE SOUND BECAME
S LOUDER...

DEAFENING ME!
IT'S A NERVOUS
BREAKDOWN...
I'M IMAGINING
ALL THIS! I'LL GET
ON A SMALL PASSENGER
YACHT OUT OF MIAMI...
ONCE ON BOARD, I'LL BE FINE AGAIN!

... CHANGE COURSE... WHOMP...
GOOD HEAVENS!
THE SHOCK OF IT ALL...
DEAFENED HIM!
... I'D HAVE TO BRAKE TO A SUD-
DEN STOP!
YOUR MEDICAL REPORT JUST CAME IN,
DOCTOR! YOU'VE BEEN OVERWORKING!
YOU'RE ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS
BREAKDOWN! I'M ADVISING YOU TO
TAKE A VACATION AT ONCE!

RA-DAR! WE'RE CLEAR AHEAD FOR TEN MILES!
WE HAVE NERVOUS BREAKDOWNS,
S GO MAD! WHAT ARE THESE
IS OF OUR TIMES DO YOU ARE SICK!... TAKE
A CRUISE FOR YOUR HEALTH... WHIRRR...
ANOTHER SHIP? YOU MEAN WE MIGHT COLLIDE?

TRENGTH BORN OF FEAR...
MAN LEAVES, DR. LARO! HEAD SUDDENLY REELS.

IT'S A MIRACLE, BUT YOUR EARDRUMS ARE UNDAMAGED NOW I INSIST YOU CEASE HIS WORK AT ONCE!
Dazed and Frightened DR. LARO STAGGERED FROM THE TRAIN TO APARTMENT

CHANGE COURSE...
ARE GOING TO COLLIDE... YOU MUST INFORM CAPTAIN...
HURRY!

DRIVEN BY FEAR, LARO FIGHTS THE WHEEL AS DISASTER CHURNS DOWN UPON THE SMALLER VESSEL...

TO DR. LARO THE SHIP'S ENGINE WAS A LIVING THING! THE HUMMING AND THROBING OF ITS MANY PISTONS AND GEARS WERE ACTUALLY COMMUNICATING WITH THE SCIENTIST... FOR YOU SEE, DR. LARO HAD DISCOVERED THE SECRET...
DR. LARO!...
HOW CAN WE EVER THANK YOU? THE ISLAND IS LOCKED OUT

GREAT CAESAR! EVERY TEST UNDER THE CHAMBER IS BLARING ON... LARO'S EARDRUMS... THEY MUST HAVE BURST!

YES, DOCTOR... I... GO HOME... THIS... FOUND... IS... FAULT

POSSESSED, LARO TO THE DECK...

... BUT IF YOU DON'T LISTEN UP, YOU'LL DECIBEL YOURSELF TO DEATH

AMAZING HOW QUIET THESE NEW...
HOW CAN I EVER GIVE ME?

EH? THE ELECTRICAL HUM OF THE ELEVATOR TALKING TO ME?

H ON... FIFTY... SENSE



Adam White, Louisville, Kentucky

Untitled, cut paper, 36" x 36", 2011





Margaret Whiting, Waterloo, Iowa

New Standard Encyclopedia of Universal Knowledge,
rolled and bound encyclopedia set, 5" x 34" x 5", 2009

Ethan Worden, Oakland, California

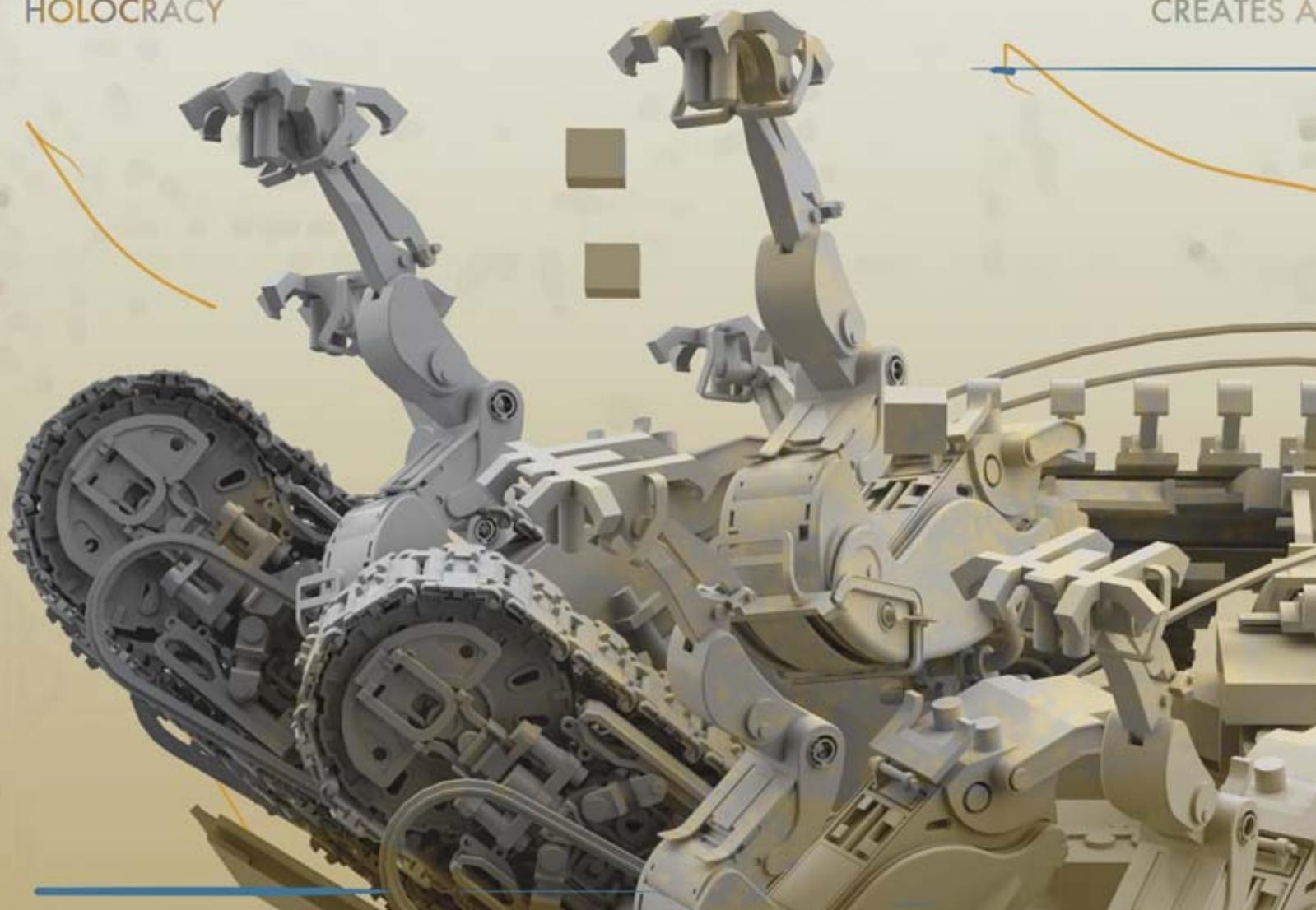
(T)HERE, neon, 7" x 36" x 3", 2010

HERE

A neon sign with the word "HERE" in a simple, outlined font. The sign is mounted on a light-colored wall. Two black power cables hang down from the sign. The sign is illuminated, casting a soft glow on the wall behind it.

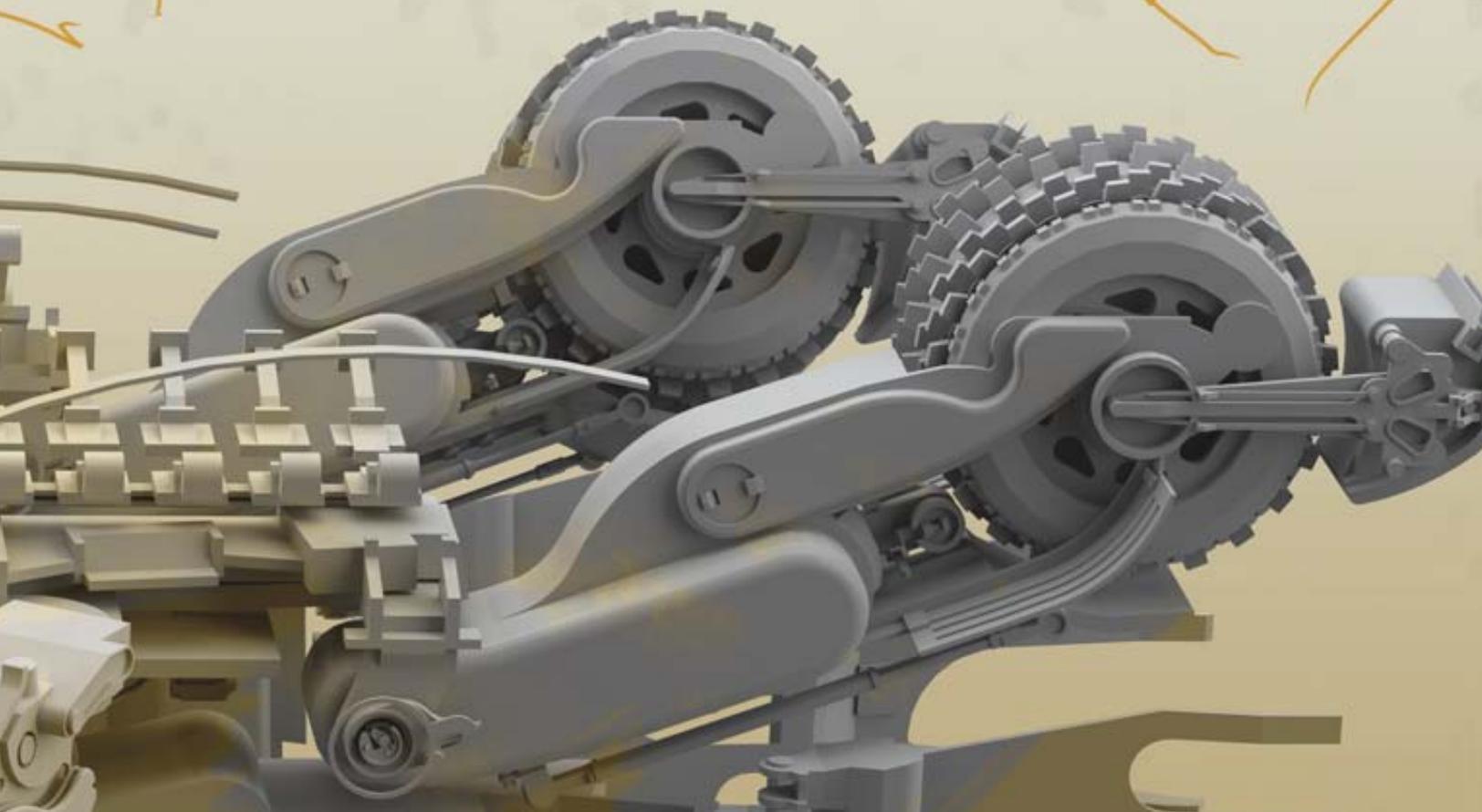
HOLOCRACY

CREATES A



MORPHIC FIELD -

AN ENERGY FIELD THAT



March 9 - April 6, 2012





INK and AIR

A Group Show of Drawings, Paintings, and Photographs by Four Artists

Featuring **Judith Brandon** (Cleveland), **Van Chu** (Salt Lake City),
Patti Jordan (Montclair, NJ), and **Randall Tiedman** (Cleveland)

For Manifest's 8th exhibition season we received 130 solo and group proposals for consideration to fill six spots in our schedule. We simply did not have room in our calendar for everything we wanted to show. But during the process the works of four artists in our top pool of proposals seemed to vie in equal determination for our attention. It also happened that three of the four have had work included in previous Manifest publications (INDA and INPA). So we capitulated, and gave them all an invitation to mingle in one intimate collection in our Drawing Room gallery.

We are convinced that the collection we have assembled makes for an enticing experience of *Ink and Air*...





Judith Brandon, Cleveland, Ohio

Aegean Storm, mixed media on paper, 50" x 40", 2009





Van Chu, Salt Lake City, Utah

Dragon, archival pigment photograph, 50" x 24", 2010



Van Chu, Salt Lake City, Utah

Mushrooms and Trees, archival pigment photograph, 24" x 72", 2011



Patti Jordan, Montclair, New Jersey

Fly-Fucker (Corpus 011), etching ink & graphite on paper, 16" x 12", 2011



Patti Jordan, Montclair, New Jersey

Horn-Mad (Biconical 002), etching ink & graphite on paper, 18" x 15", 2010



Patti Jordan, Montclair, New Jersey

Whip (Viscera 010), etching ink & graphite on paper, 20" x 18", 2010



Randall Tiedman, Cleveland, Ohio

Merry Heart, acrylic on stonehenge, 40" x 56", 2011







March 9 - April 6, 2012
Curated by Tim Parsley, Assistant Director

PROCESS

Drawings by David Kassan

Recognized internationally for his mastery of contemporary portrait painting and drawing, David Kassan represents the leading edge of current approaches to realism. While fastidious in their application, Kassan's portraits capture more than just technical acuity. They evoke emotional precision and quiet confidence.

Of his work, Kassan states:

My work is a way of meditation, a way of slowing down time through the careful observation of overlooked slices of my environment. It is the subtlety of emotion in my acquaintances that inhabit the aforementioned environment which intrigues me...

Time is the most valuable thing that we all have, the one aspect of daily life that we can not get back once it's gone. I want to use time while trying to understand the world around me. Painting is my notebook, my sounding board.

PROCESS: Drawings by David Kassan, gives us a unique view into the “slowing down of time” through a specific focus on his works on paper. The opportunity to investigate the drawings of an artist is an intimate privilege, often revealing the inner workings and decisions that are sometimes covered over once paint is applied. Extending Manifest’s steadfast commitment to the practice of contemporary drawing, PROCESS evidences the strength of drawing as a valid discipline in its own right.

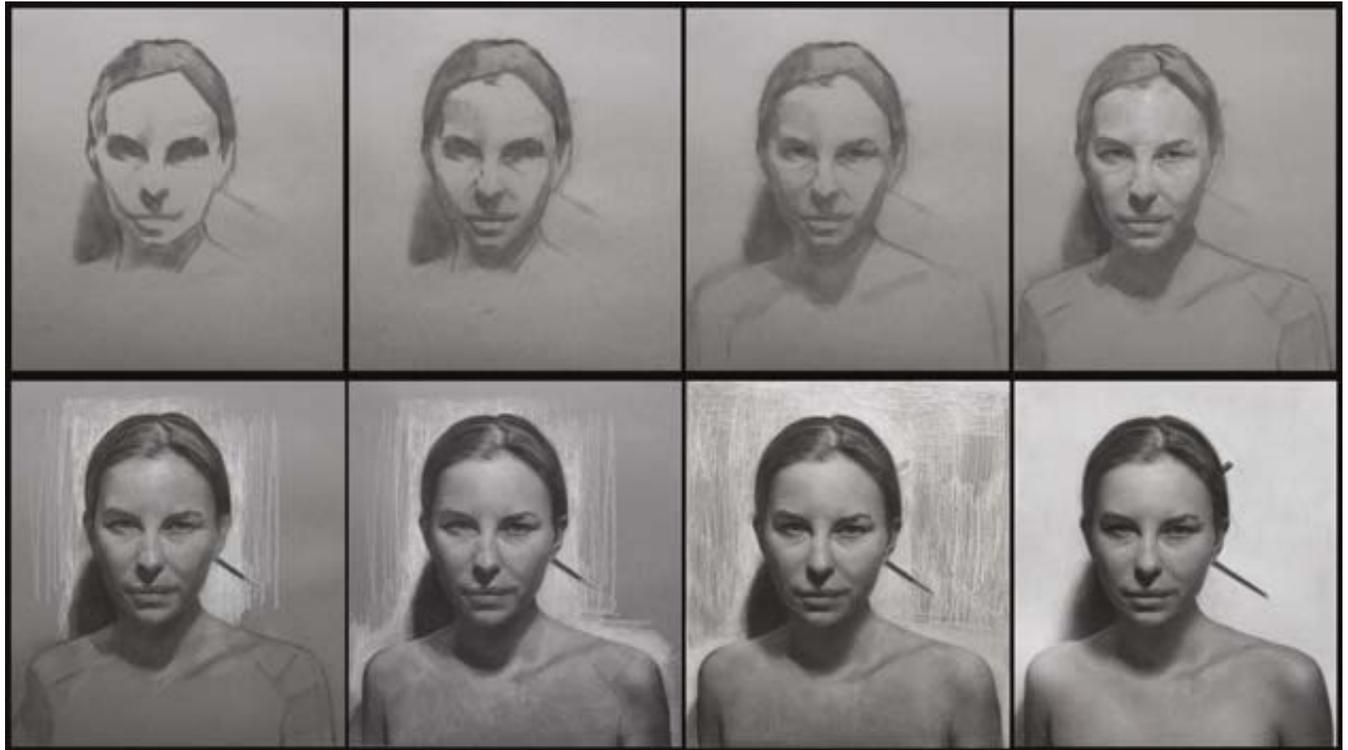
We were particularly pleased to offer this exhibition in conjunction with an intensive portraiture workshop taught by Kassan at Manifest’s Drawing Center Studio as well as a four-hour public demonstration given by him to nearly 70 guests. Essential to Kassan’s practice as an artist is his commitment to teaching others. Therefore, Manifest is proud to offer a Cincinnati platform for David Kassan as both artist and teacher.

– Tim Parsley, Assistant Director

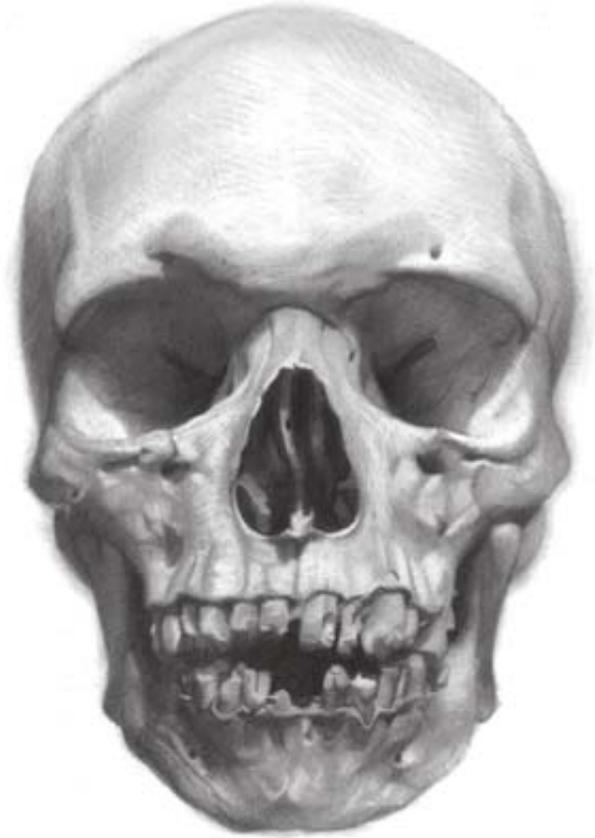
More examples of David Jon Kassan’s work and full C.V. can be found at www.davidkassan.com. He is represented by Gallery Henoah (Chelsea), New York, NY.

Regarding his commitment to drawing, Kassan states:

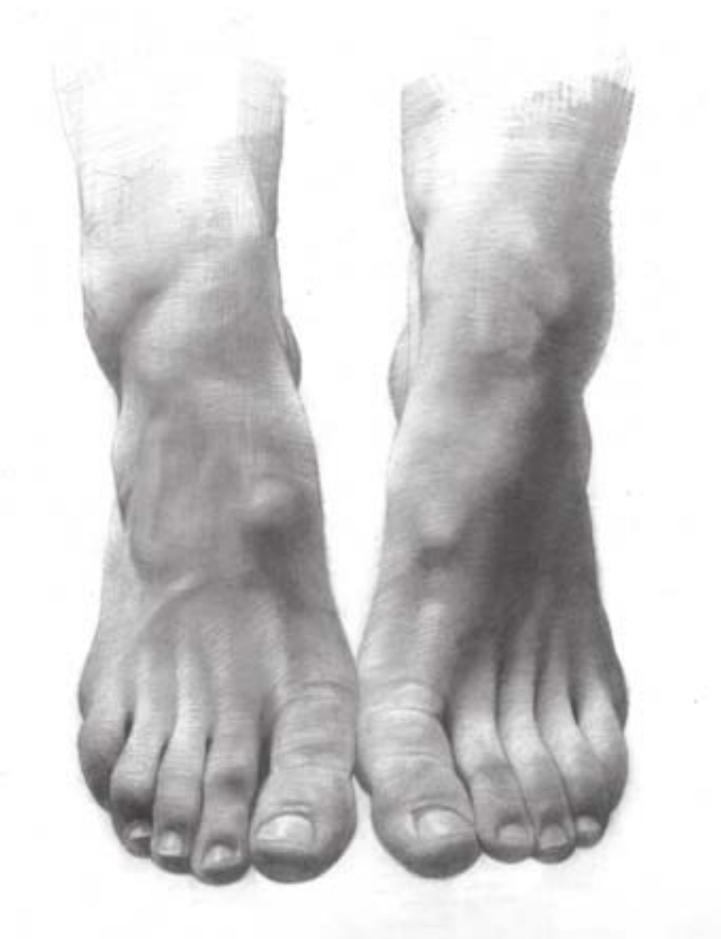
The process of drawing has always been something that I have been chasing since I first started drawing from life while taking classes at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia when I was 15 years old. Drawing has always been a challenge of mine, seeing things well enough to understand them and to organize them in my mind first before placing them on the paper. For me drawing is become more of a concept as opposed to something only driven by one medium, the act of drawing or seeing things in space and context can be felt in sculpting as well as painting. There is a purity to drawing, a truthfulness that really challenges the mind spatially. It’s this probity that really has driven my work as well, I want to be as faithful to my subjects as possible so that myself as the artist is out of the way, when the subject and the viewer meet. The more honest and the fully understood my drawing is, to who is in front of me, the more subtle the emotion and realness of the subject will be conveyed to the viewer. Drawing has become understanding for me and fully understanding something that is constantly different based on what is in front of us is an impossible challenge. At this point in my life, I have embraced my chase of drawing and it has really pushed me to constantly strive for more understanding and to be better.



process documentation



Front Skull Study, graphite on bristol, 9.5" x 7", 2008



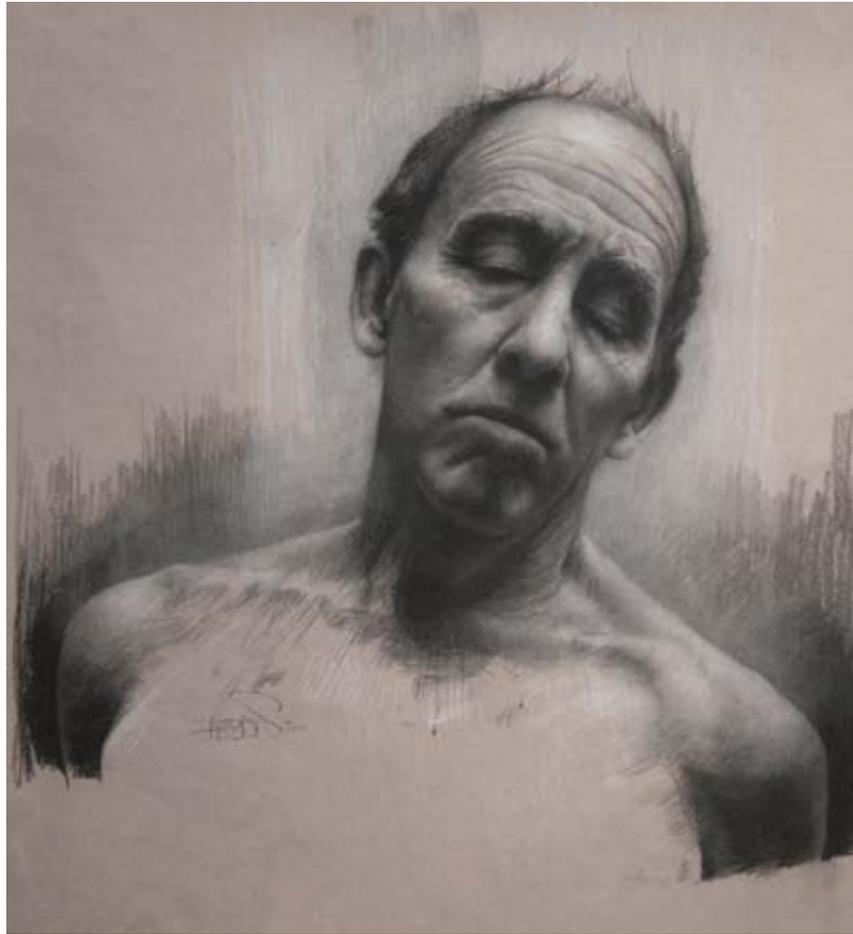
Two feet, graphite on bristol, 9.5" x 8", 2009



Homeless Man, charcoal on toned paper, 23" x 18", 2012



Lucas at 3 months old, graphite on bristol, 10" x 8", 2007



Study of Peter, charcoal on paper, 15" x 15", 2011



Laura Genne, charcoal on hahnemuhle paper, 18" x 11", 2010



Aubrey Looking Down, charcoal/gouache on toned paper, 20" x 15", 2012



process documentation



Aubrey Looking Up, charcoal on toned paper, 16" x 15", 2012

David Jon Kassan lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. He has taught throughout the United States, Australia, Portugal and Iceland, and continues to be a sought-after drawing and painting instructor because of his steadfast commitment to the classic discipline of working from life and creating compelling expressions of the human form. He has received many awards, including 1st Place in the Portrait Society of America International Exhibition (2009) and the 1st Place Prize for Portraiture at The National Academy (2004). Kassan's work is also included in numerous publications including International Artist Magazine and Drawing Magazine as well book publications such as *The Upset: Young Contemporary Art* (2008).

PROCESS: Drawings by David Kassan is David's first exhibition in the Cincinnati region.



photo by Jason Franz

About Manifest

Founded in 2004 by professors and students from area Universities, Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization headquartered in the historic urban neighborhood of East Walnut Hills in Cincinnati, Ohio. The 1000 square foot museum-quality street level gallery offers three distinct exhibition spaces, and is minutes away from downtown Cincinnati, and the numerous academic institutions of higher learning in the region. Its central location in the Woodburn Avenue district and DeSales Corner places it within an energetic, creative, and revitalizing community that includes other galleries, shops, restaurants and artists' studios.

The gallery benefits from its location within easy walking distance of a historic neighborhood populated by 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 of all kinds by student and professional artists from around the world. The Manifest Drawing Center Studio is located in nearby Madisonville.

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

Manifest stands for the quality presentation, experience, and documentation of the visual arts, engaging students, professionals, and the public from around the world through accessible world-class exhibits, studio programs, and publications.

Manifest Gallery

...a neighborhood gallery for the world.

Manifest Press

...take every exhibit home.

Manifest Drawing Center

...because learning to draw is learning to see.

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*Assistant Director,
Drawing Center Director*

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MANIFEST
CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY AND DRAWING CENTER

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