

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Local Pop Artist Shows Drawing is at his Core**

in

***Drawings by Kevin T. Kelly***

**MANIFEST CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY  
and DRAWING CENTER**

**September 30 – October 28, 2005**

**OPENING RECEPTION: Friday, September 30, 6-10 p.m.** (refreshments will be served)

**GALLERY HOURS: Tuesday through Friday 2 – 7:00 p.m., Sat. 12 – 5 p.m.** (during exhibit run)

**LOCATION: 2727 Woodburn Avenue, East Walnut Hills, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206**

(Just south of Madison Rd. at DeSales Corner. Map is available at [www.manifestgallery.org/map](http://www.manifestgallery.org/map))

**PARKING: On street and parking across the street in DeSales Business Lot**

**CONTACT: Jason Franz, exhibit Curator and Manifest Executive Director at  
513-290-2574, [info@manifestgallery.org](mailto:info@manifestgallery.org)**

**GALLERY PHONE: 513-861-3638**

**FOR MORE INFO:**

<http://www.manifestgallery.org>

<http://www.kevinkelly.com>

**FULL COLOR EXHIBIT CATALOG AVAILABLE:**

<http://www.manifestgallery.org/manifestpress>

**MANIFEST** kicks off its second season in serious fashion by offering two solo exhibits by two veteran artists with international experience (see Spahr release provided separately). *Drawings by Kevin T. Kelly* continues Manifest's commitment to serve as a Drawing Center whereby the practice and results of drawing are promoted, explored, and exhibited. Known internationally for his larger-than-life paintings on canvas, Kelly defies expectations and presents 18 color and black and white intimately sized drawings in Manifest's Drawing Room. These works promise to reveal both the value of drawing as a process towards finished products in other media, and as beautiful ends in themselves, equally commanding as their larger offspring – both visually and conceptually.

**What you'll see:** A cross section of drawings by Kevin T. Kelly created in preparation for much larger works on canvas; 18 drawings in color and black and white, mostly in ink and/or Prismacolor, including studies for his most

recent commission for six 12!x12! canvases; the ubiquitous Kevin T. Kelly political irony; and finally, an intriguing comparison between the digital work of Robert Spahr and these hand-crafted drawings of Kevin T. Kelly – a comparison which some say represents two completely opposite ends of the political spectrum, and a potentially volatile creative mixture.

**The combination** of these two artists, in two simultaneous solo exhibits at Manifest, represents the reunion of two classmates (Art Academy) who both pursued careers in art in New York City, who both began as sculptors but have since adopted 2D media, and who both incorporate elements of "pop culture! into their work.

**Kevin T. Kelly**, born in 1960, graduated from the Art Academy of Cincinnati in 1987 with a BFA in Sculpture. He moved to New York City in 1988, where he worked as a studio assistant to Tom Wesselmann for nearly six years.

Kelly considers his drawings and paintings "Neo-Pop" or "Post-Pop." Infused with a postmodern sensibility, subject matter relevant to the present day, and executed in what the artist refers to as a "hyper-chromatic" palette, the paintings are not only saturated by contemporary issues, but excel as studies in formal definition, composition and color. The work has been described as: "Roy Lichtenstein meets Dennis Hopper on Steroids." It's a wry, complex mixture of satirical social commentary, the six o'clock news, and the Sunday funnies.

Kelly currently lives and works in the Cincinnati area. His work has been represented by galleries in New York City, Detroit, and Columbus, Ohio. His work is shown nationally, and is in collections around the world. **An exhibit of Kelly's paintings at the Dayton Art Institute is scheduled to run concurrently with the exhibit at Manifest.** Kelly has taught as an adjunct professor at The Art Academy of Cincinnati, and written critical reviews for Cincinnati CityBeat, Dialogue magazine and New Art Examiner.



*Silver in an Old Mirror*

Kevin T. Kelly, 2005



*Drawing for "For Whose Amusement"*

Kevin T. Kelly, 2001



*Suicide Squeeze*

Kevin T. Kelly, 2005

For more information send e-mail to: [info@manifestgallery.org](mailto:info@manifestgallery.org)