

***** For Immediate Release *****



image by Jon Swindler, Assistant Professor, Wright State University

Season 4

Manifest Announces Its Fourth Season

Announcing 3 solo exhibits, a two-person exhibit, two guest curated juried shows (Dennis Kiel and Dana Saulnier), and 6 thematic calls for entry, Manifest ramps up for a turning-point season four. Coming off a stellar year and clocking in with a whopping 200% increase in artworks submissions (from around the country and Europe) the little gallery on Woodburn avenue in East Walnut Hills is carving its niche in ever widening international circles, becoming the neighborhood gallery for the world!

Manifest still proudly prioritizes the creation of effective and compelling mixtures of the student with the professional and the local with the international, weaving a vital web of interconnected creative energies for the benefit of a broad community.

Season 4 will bring big changes to Manifest, both visible and behind the scenes. The solid lineup of exhibits, publications, and studio programming will continue to be the reliable and excellent art experiences you've come to expect from this small but mighty non-profit arts organization.

Highlight News for the Upcoming Season

- **Manifest to hire its first paid staff**
- **Seven Art and Design on Film screenings will be presented**
- **Manifest lures Dennis Kiel back to Cincinnati as one of two guest curators**
- **Manifest's Drawing Center Studio curriculum to expand**
- **8 exhibit catalogs and the third volume of the interNational Drawing Annual to be published**
- **Season 4 will be funded in part by The City of Cincinnati and The Ohio Arts Council**

Season 4 at-a-glance:

(Details included below - and on the Manifest website)

September 28 - October 26

Souvenir

Recent Paintings by Kim Flora

Main Gallery

New Hybrids: Environmental Anomalies

Recent Drawings by Jon Swindler

Drawing Room

November 9 - December 7

Resistance to Vision: Searching, Sifting, Finding, Seeing

Guest curated by Dana Saulnier, Associate Professor, Miami University

Main Gallery and Drawing Room

December 14 - January 11, 2008

Trick of the Light: Contemporary Photography

Guest Curated by Dennis Kiel, Chief Curator, The Light Factory, Charlotte, North Carolina

Main Gallery

Funny Men: Illustrations by Gabriel Utasi and Ryan Ostrander

Drawing Room

January 25 - February 22

Body of Work: The Human Form in Contemporary Art

Main Gallery

Appetite and Consumption:

Works on Paper by Kelly Jo Asbury

Drawing Room

March 7 - April 4

Projections: An International Exhibit of Wall-based Sculptures

Main Gallery

Selections from the National Drawing Annual 2007

Drawing Room

April 18 - May 23

4th Annual Rites of Passage - A Juried Exhibit of Regional and National Undergraduate Seniors

Main Gallery and Drawing Room

June 6 - July 4

4th Annual Magnitude SEVEN - A International Juried Exhibition of Small Works

July 18 - August 15

2nd Annual Master Pieces - A Juried Exhibit of Current/Recent MFA Grads

Season 4 Details

Souvenir is a collection of recent paintings by Kim Flora, a Cincinnati artist, and 2005 Art Academy of Cincinnati graduate.

Manifest is pleased to present this collection of works as the kickoff exhibit for our 2007/08 season. Flora's paintings are richly layered, dense meditations on reflections of travel in Europe during a 2004 Art Academy student exchange program to Munich.

The works delicately suggest dream-like memories, sharing the flavor of sentimentality while mixing in an amazing formalist aesthetic.

New Hybrids assembles an exquisite collection of drawing-based works utilizing the artist's personal metaphors and references to his rural past to provoke a visceral response. Jon Swindler received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in printmaking and art education from Fort Hays State University in Kansas, and his MFA degree in printmaking and drawing from Southern Illinois University in 2003. Since 2004 he has served as Assistant Professor of Art at Wright State University in Dayton Ohio where he teaches introductory through advanced levels of drawing and printmaking.

Creative work is often ninety percent not seeing what one hopes to see. Rejection and destruction accompany the fragmentary and ambiguous episodes of seeing, that are the constant companions of the instincts, intuitions, and insights born of creative actions. This is true of many different processes of visual art from naturalism to abstraction. Naturalism is haunted by the plenitude of vision whereas abstraction frequently sets out to make visible what is not yet seen. We are hoping to see work that makes visible an active dialogue with visibility as necessary to its aesthetic. We are hoping to see work that reveals searching, sifting, "seeing as" and "seeing in" as the givens of creativity. (Exhibit concept statement by Dana Saulnier for *Resistance to Vision*). Two public lectures will accompany this exhibit.

Trick of the Light invites artists to submit works of recent photography-based work in an effort to assemble a compelling exhibit revealing the power of light-based imagery to communicate, express, or evoke a visceral first-hand experience as powerful as any painting or sculpture might. Entries from a wide range of interpretations of 'photography' are expected.

Funny Men brings two award-winning illustrators together for a tour-de-force exhibit of classic drawing-based illustration. Gabriel Utasi graduated from the Art Academy of Cincinnati in 2000 and currently works as staff illustrator at the East Valley Tribune in Mesa, Arizona. Ryan Ostrander is illustrator and graphic designer for The Cincinnati Post and has three times been named "Best Graphic Artist" by The Society of Professional Journalists.

Body of Work invites artists to submit works in any medium or genre that investigate or incorporate the human form in some way. A range of types of entries are strongly encouraged - from purely academic examples of anatomical figure drawing, to conceptual and less-obvious interpretations. The human form has been a central subject of artwork since well before it was called 'art'. From Lascaux to Willendorf, to Matthew Barney and Jenny Saville, artists have found ways to provide forms of self-reflection to society.

Manifest Gallery is proud to present a solo exhibit of the large-scale works on paper by Kelly Jo Asbury. An intimate drawing room experience of larger than life scale, this exhibit will present works which the artist states are intended to arouse and discomfort the viewer by means of subtly familiar imagery and suggestions of sensuality. The artist states: *These paintings/drawings explore our primordial link to water and our relentless search for one another... The use of symbolic references to water, metamorphosis and adaptation are linked conceptually to herpetology, more specifically amphibians through various cultural views (especially Mayan) of fertility, growth and birth.*

Projections invites artists to submit works of art that are clearly sculptural, with three-dimensional space a key element, but which are not in any way floor or pedestal (top surface) based. Works will be either wall or ceiling mounted. This concept pushes the boundaries of the general expectation regarding the weightiness of sculptures, so often seen as being earth-bound and gravity defined.

Selections from the interNational Drawing Annual will be the third annual presentation of this exhibit, featuring handpicked works representing some of the finalists for the Third Annual iNDA exhibit-in-print competition.

Conceived and initiated in 2005, The Rites of Passage exhibits were developed in order to support student excellence by offering a public venue for the display of advanced creative research; to promote young artists as they transition into their professional careers; and to bring the positive creative energies of regional institutions together in one place.

Small works are very portable and fit well into many spaces. They also evoke in the viewer a sense of one's own physicality, in a completely different way than average or large sized works. Small works are intimate; inviting approach and inspection. Like short poetry, they are a challenge to craft with the same presence of their larger counterparts. In the spirit of Manifest's mission of exploration, we offered this fourth annual call to artists and designers to submit works no larger than seven inches in any dimension - Magnitude SEVEN.

Building upon the philosophy and success of the Rites of Passage exhibits for undergrads, Manifest offers a similar opportunity to graduate students for exhibiting at Manifest. Another annual offering, this second installment of the Master Pieces project will reveal the intensity and professionalism of students working towards their terminal academic degree in the field of art or design. Often the most exceptional work comes out of these artists' immersion in their culture of study and intellectual pursuit. Manifest's goal, therefore, is to select works that in the truest sense of the word are contemporary masterpieces – works that set the standard of quality that the artist is expected to maintain (or better) throughout his or her professional career. The exhibit catalog for this show will serve as a visual documentation of these artists' own benchmarks for years to come.

Manifest's Season 4 is funded in part by the City of Cincinnati and the Ohio Arts Council.