

Signs of the Apocalypse/Rapture

Curated by Front Forty Press

July 19 – September 20, 2009

Exhibition Reception:

Sunday, July 19, 3 – 5pm

Galleries 1, 2, and 3

Gallery Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 10am – 8pm

Friday – Saturday: 10am – 5pm

Sunday: 12pm – 5pm

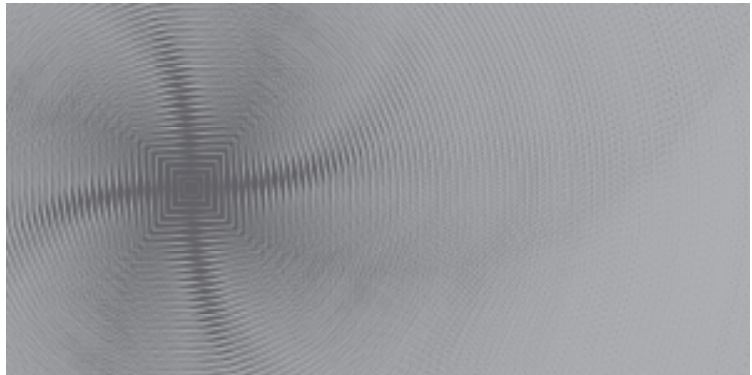


Image courtesy of David Castillo, 2008.

Chicago, IL (February 2009) — *Signs of the Apocalypse/Rapture*, a curatorial survey by Front Forty Press offers a provocative look into the current trend of blurring the line between annihilation and bliss euphoria in contemporary art, thought, and sound on view from July 19 – September 20, 2009 at the Hyde Park Art Center. This dynamic exhibition presents diverse and engaging imagery from more than twenty-five well respected local to international contemporary artists working in a variety of mediums.

The opposing ideas of destruction and transcendence fuels the range of expressions featured in *Signs of the Apocalypse/Rapture*. At once intensely individual, the cross-selection of works also express larger cultural concerns. Ranging from the religious, scientific, sensual, and didactic, the diverse themes of the exhibition punctuate the relevance and malleability of such topics in contemporary discourse. Artists participating in the exhibition include: Ricky Allman, Oksana Badrak, Hisham Akira Bharoocha, Kelly Barrie, Sebastiaan Bremer, Christopher Bucklow, Eduardo DeSoignie, Jon Elliot, Lora Fosberg, Till Gerhard, Julie Heffernan, Cody Hudson, Jennifer J.L. Jones, Ellen Kooi, Mark McGinnis, Julie Mehretu, David Opdyke, Emilio Perez, John Pranica, Jean-Pierre Roy, Ed Ruscha, Alison Ruttan, Carrie Schneider, Matthew Schreiber, Andrew Schoultz, Erika Somogyi, John Sparagana, Doug and Mike Starn, Bill Viola, Simmons & Burke, Kim Soo, Caleb Weintraub, and many more. Additional programming includes live performances from select audio artists, and lectures by scholars working in a number of fields concerning the exhibition's topics.

The exhibition complements a book project of the same name released by Front Forty Press and the University of Chicago in September 2008. This handsome catalogue features a comprehensive section of interviews, critical essays, and large illustrations of work by sixty artists. For more information on the larger book project, please visit www.front40press.com/sotar.php.

Signs of the Apocalypse/Rapture will be on view from July 19 – September 20, 2009 at the Hyde Park Art Center, 5020 South Cornell Avenue, Chicago, IL, 60615; 773.324.5520 and www.hydeparkart.org. Exhibitions are always free and open to the public.

The Hyde Park Art Center is a not-for-profit organization that presents innovative exhibitions, primarily work by Chicago-area artists, and educational programs in the visual arts for children and adults of diverse backgrounds. The Center is funded in part by the Alphawood Foundation; The Chicago Community Trust; a City Arts III grant from the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council; The Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; The Leo S. Guthman Fund; The Irving Harris Foundation; The Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; The Joyce Foundation; JPMorgan Chase Foundation; The Mayer & Morris Kaplan Family Foundation; The MacArthur Foundation; The MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; The Orbit Fund; Polk Bros. Foundation; The Clinton Family Fund; The Sara Lee Foundation; South East Chicago Commission; The Wallace Foundation; and the generosity of its members and friends.