

Figure, Form + Observation

curated by Darrell Roberts



Participating Artists:

Ann Billingsley
Bo Brown
Gloria Carrig
R.L. Cohen
José-Maria H. Gabriel
Sheheryar Hasain
Eva Simone Jaequer
Josh Joyce
Stafan Kamph
Muriel Lane
Angela Lee
Bill Morrison
Kate Morrison
David Nekimken
Peter Page
Shantala Palat
Rachel Pierson
George Peterson IV
Donna W. Radcliffe
Sindhv Rajan
Amanda Ruch
Leon Sarantos
Malka Shalhav
Dina Weinstein

Hyde Park**ARTCENTER**

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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 Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation; The Lucius and Eva Eastman Foundation; The Field Foundation of Illinois; Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; The Leo S. Guthman Fund; The Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; The Joyce Foundation; The Mayer & Morris Kaplan Family Foundation; Kraft Foods; The MacArthur Foundation; The MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; The National Endowment for the Arts; Polk Bros. Foundation; The Clinton Family Fund; South East Chicago Commission; and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; and the generosity of its members and friends.

Figure, Form and Observation depicts the creativity of the students working in the figure through photography, drawing, painting, and clay, whether it is observational or abstract. I have taken the theme of this show and included vessels and objects as figural forms. They are person-made and are creations that can be made and replicated by someone as a product and then re-interpreted by an artist in a piece of clay or depicted in a two-dimensional piece of artwork. As a teaching artist, I know the value of working from the nude figure, to develop into a mature artist. By studying gesture, proportions, foreshortening, value and flesh tones in painting and drawing an artist develops what is known as a true artist eye.



José - Maria H. Gabriel
Lady with Crystal Earrings
2007
oil on canvas
16 x 12 inches

This exhibition is just a small example of the great talent that comes from adult students at the Hyde Park Art Center. Some of the exhibiting artists are old time friends who have been taking classes since the Hyde Park Art Center was in the Del Prado building. Many are happy new faces who have joined in our new expanded center that now includes six exhibition spaces and several individual classrooms, from photography, adult and youth painting, drawing rooms, and a clay room big enough to be its own center. It is hard to imagine that a little less than two years ago, the Hyde Park Art Center was a one room exhibition space with a tiny shared multi-room classroom hidden behind the gallery and an adjacent closet of a ceramics space.

Paint, pencils, clay and photography. That is what makes the backrooms of the Hyde Park Art Center hum. Good friends, new acquaintances and the fun of making art can all be enjoyed throughout the year at the Hyde Park Art Center. I started teaching at the Hyde Park Art Center seven years ago as I began my graduate studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Many of the students here have been taking my classes for the same amount of years. I have truly enjoyed being apart of their artist development and seeing beginning students come to take their first drawing and painting class.

I would like to thank the Hyde Park Art Center for these wonderful years, the opportunity to present a solo exhibition, and the opportunity to present my swan song of a great group of talented Hyde Park Art Center artist in Figure, Form and Observation. None of these opportunities could have ever happened without the Hyde Park Art Center and I am forever indebted.

Darrell Roberts
Teaching Artist



Eva Simone Jaeger
Untitled
2007
charcoal on paper
18 x 24 inches (unframed)