

GALLERY 414



Meat Mambo, 2005 Steve Cruz acrylic and Sculpy on board



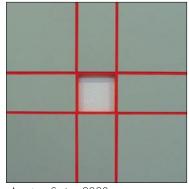
438R.321, 2005 Christopher Hart digital print



Love Letter, 2005 Jennifer Pepper blue carbon, typing paper, and acrylic on canvas



Take This Message to the Other Side (detail), 2004 Terri Cummings mixed media Courtesy of Handley Hicks Gallery



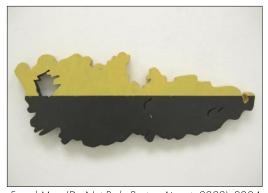
Aperture Series, 2003 Robert Caslin PVC and oil enamel on MDF



Raising the Shipwreck Tree, 2005 Todd McCollister Pyrex cylinder, iron pot, blown glass, wire, Hydrostone, water



Stained Sheets #1, 2005 Yousef Balat ink and gesso on polyester



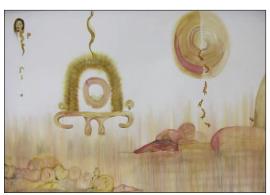
Found Map (Do Not Park, Boston Airport, 2002), 2004 Tudor Mitroi acrylic on wood



Former Slave Quarters, Charleston, South Carolina, 2005 Steven Watson pigment ink jet print Courtesy of William Campbell Contemporary Art



Untitled (Asteroid), 2005 Janet Tyson Lego plastic bricks Courtesy of Pan American Gallery



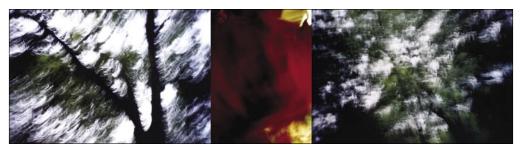
Useless Desires Split Like a Cell, 2005 Rosemary Meza watercolor



See, 2005 Sally Packard rope and cloth



Lawnscape One (detail), 2005 John Frost poplar and oak dowels, wood glue, enamel



Study 25.08.05 (from "Brief Moments in the Garden of Eden" series), 2005 Joel Quintans C-print on Masonite

I wear many hats as director of Gallery 414. It is not uncommon to see me paint galleries, change light bulbs, or spackle walls. As glamorous as this may sound, I also curate the occasional exhibition. My latest endeavor is *Blink:* 1995–2005, *Celebrating 10 Years*.

To curate is to organize. When curating an exhibition, artists and works are organized to illustrate a common thread. *Blink* is no exception. It is an eclectic collection of photography, sculpture, painting, and mixed media, covering topics and subject matter as diverse as the group participating. What binds these artists together is a shared exhibition history at Gallery 414. They exhibited their work solo and in group shows. Some hung their work once, others on several occasions, and one participated in that very first exhibition on gallery night 1995.

Gallery 414 started with a conversation and offer from Razz Fiesler to exhibit my own artwork in the little house at 414 Templeton. Shy and not confident about my work, I declined. Instead, I offered to



organize a show for a few of my friends. Razz agreed, and my wife joined the effort. The three of us formed a partnership and Gallery 414 was born.

From the beginning, Gallery 414's mission has been to exhibit artists in all phases of their careers, including beginning, mid-career, established, self-taught, and formally educated. We remain faithful to this mission. Gallery 414 is a labor of love and volunteer effort. Razz generously donates the exhibition space, Larry Crowder designed and maintains the web site, and Adele and I give our time and resources. This unique arrangement allows us to exhibit work that more traditional venues are unable to consider.

I am often asked why I run a gallery without commissions or profit. It's because the payoff has been more than monetary. It has been an education and the friendships we've made are rewarding and long lasting. We agree to continue with Gallery 414 so long as it is fun, and the past ten years have been more than fun.

Naming a show is often difficult, but the title for this one was obvious. The past ten years went by in the blink of an eye. Selecting artists to include in this gallery retrospective was not as easy. It was difficult limiting the show to only fourteen artists from the more than 120 who have shown here. Thanks to Adele, Razz, Larry, and all of the artists both past and present for making Gallery 414 possible. And a special thank you to Delbert Miller for sharing a few of his many photos taken during Gallery 414 opening receptions. The past ten years have been a pleasure and I look forward to many more.

John Hartley
September 10, 2005