

Since 1973, a gallery promoting the work of women artists and serving the community through public events

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C H E L S E A

For Immediate Release:

Becky Franco Chosen

April 23 – May 18, 2013

Opening Reception:
Thursday April 25th, 6-8pm

SOHO20 Chelsea Gallery
547 West 27th St. #301
NY NY 10001



Image: SATISFACTION, 2009, oil on canvas, 58" x 40"

SOHO20 Chelsea Gallery presents *Chosen*, an exhibition of recent work by artist Becky Franco. The installation features large-scale paintings as well as objects from the artist's home on view through May 18th.

Painting directly from her home environment Franco's carefully staged inventory of shimmering crystal chandeliers, Venetian mirrors, exquisite vases, and personal art collection exposes a private relationship that examines the construction of identity.

Franco's subjects are objects of desire. They represent a comfortable lifestyle that speaks of wealth, class and social status. Through the lens of painting one can reflect on the object-ness of these domestic items and the desire they manifest in individuals and society to achieve. One can also sense the deep felt absence of human presence in the paintings. In *Clarity* (2009) a tightly cropped view of an ornate dining room is presented to the viewer, the chair tucked in to the clear glass table, and a reflection of perhaps a backyard through the mirror. Each painting offers the sensation of wandering through Franco's home alone.

Franco's paintings investigate the possibility of 'objects' having the power of choosing us to be acquired and ultimately urging and mesmerizing her to be represented. The objects found in her paintings seem to have 'CHOSEN' the artist and have acquired an anthropomorphic presence as if watching us thus exposing to the viewer her subconscious.

Becky Franco was born in Havana, Cuba. She completed a BFA with Honors from Pratt Institute, and an MFA from Queens College, NY. Influenced by the Photo Realist movement of the 1970's she became the first female billboard artist to join the Sign & Pictorial Display Union. Her paintings were featured in many publications and a Rizzoli book called *Tromp L'Oeil At Home* by Karen Chambers. Rebecca's paintings have been exhibited in a number of group exhibitions in New York and was recently interviewed by the New York Times for a show exhibiting Caribbean artists at the Islip Art Museum called LA PLACITA, Most recently Franco has been invited to participate in La Biental at El Museo Del Barrio in June of 2013.

For more information, please contact the gallery at info@soho20gallery.com or 212.367.8994