



547 W. 27th Street,
Suite 301
New York, NY 10001
(212) 367-8994
(212) 367-8984 fax
Tues. – Sat. 12 – 6PM
info@soho20gallery.com
www.soho20gallery.com

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

For Immediate Release

SOHO20 Gallery Chelsea 2013
HERoica: New Work By National Affiliates 2013
June 18- July 13, 2013

SOHO20 CHELSEA GALLERY
547 West 27th Street, Suite 301
New York, NY 10001

Opening Reception: Thursday, June 20, 5:00-8:00 pm

Reclaiming the “HER” of female agency from the traditionally masculine conception of heroic action, this all-women exhibition at Soho20 Chelsea Gallery explores the overlap of personal courage and aesthetic risk made visible and tangible in their art. Overlapping the personal and the political, this annual exhibition of thirteen National Affiliate artists and their guests addresses the interplay of heroic ideals and feminist values. They seek to reframe universal aggressive and destructive energies in self and society through a civilizing aesthetic of empathy, order, nurturing, and reparation.

The artists are deeply connected to their audience; many write, curate, or have major teaching roles in universities across the country. They search for unconventional materials and approaches through assemblage, mixed media, and collage; video, sculpture, and installation, and visual investigation of the uses of language. Their diverse subject matter ranges from family dramas to international diplomacy, metaphors of social engagement to the individual’s search for growth, empowerment, and meaning. Hand-sewn dolls and hand-hewn puppets, imprints of earth forms cast from molten iron, crocheted rhapsodies on internal organs, and video-installations on domestic fantasies gone awry all find place in this lively show. Intercultural dialogue, historical revisionism, and collaborative process emerge as empathic tools to bring to light this century’s troubled legacies of immigration, colonialism, and genocide. Alternately dark and hopeful, the range of work reveals the complexity and potential of human relationships.



Soho20 National Affiliates:

B. Amore (Vermont)	Ann Rowles (Georgia)
Karen Baldner (Indiana)	Georgia Strange (Georgia)
Fran Bull (Vermont)	Rosie Thompson (North Carolina)
Louise Farrell (Massachusetts)	Virginia Tyler (North Carolina)
Gail Hoffman (New York)	Mary Whalen (Michigan)
Elizabeth Michelman (Massachusetts)	Eve Whitaker (Texas)
Barbara Rehg (Georgia)	<i>(Laura Cloud. Michigan not participating)</i>

Summer guests: Cecilia Kane (Georgia), Carolyn Conrad (New York), Justine Johnson (London, U.K.), Elena M. Lourenco (New York), Tamsie Ringler (Minnesota)

For more information please contact gallery director, Jenn Dierdorf at 212.367.8994 or email at info@soho20gallery.com

HERoica 2013: The Artists And Their Work

Sculptor B. Amore presents her new wall relief, "Canterbury Pilgrims:" a motley assortment of bronzed gloves from the streets of Boston and New York arranged in procession across a five foot wide panel---a metaphor for our collective life journey. www.bamore.com

Karen Baldner shows works on paper from her collaboration with Björn Krondorfer, from their "Jewish/German Dialogue Project." Their jointly made print consisting of layers of letterpress, lithography, and embedded text on handmade paper, resembles a double page from a medieval manuscript. Derived from Baldner's dual identity as a German and a Jew, it compares family history, memory and the role art can play to bring together two divided cultures after the Holocaust. www.karenbaldner.com

Ann Rowles' hanging crocheted sculptures, composed of layers of multicolored thread, wire, and cord, appropriate and elaborate on her great-grandmother's expressive craft. Her new series is called "Transitional Objects" – a reference to the infant's process of individuating from the mother. "My work the last 9 years has been about caring for my mom; now that care is beyond my abilities and I am trying to accept her upcoming death, ...I am taking unfinished work from the period of my intense caretaking and attempting to both bring it to resolution and to find a new path to pursue in the future." www.annrowles.com

Virginia Tyler uses her art to economically empower the local village culture in Ghana: she collaborates with Ghanaian metal casters Paul Amponsah and Kofi Amponsem to create the bronze beads and objects assembled in her installations that are small sculptures in themselves. Tyler has also worked with craft artists Mary Assumadou and Michael Assumadou to create a work inspired by the Milky Way.

Sculptor **Louise Farrell** is influenced by theater construction, large-scale dioramas, and fantastical memories of carousels in her installation of life-size hand-sewn dolls. The domestic setting reinterprets the tragedy of her mother's decades of failed pregnancies, reviewed in light of the artist's own successful child-bearing and her daughter's hard-won fertility in conceiving twins. "It wasn't until

SOHO20
C H E L S E A

547 W. 27TH STREET, SUITE 301 NEW YORK, NY 10001

212.367.8994 FAX 212.367.8984

TUES. – SAT. 12 – 6PM

info@soho20gallery.com www.soho20gallery.com

after she died that I found out that mother had miscarried 11 times between our births. 15 almost children, if you count the two sets of twins. If I had known, would it have made a difference in our awkward relationship?" www.louisefarrell.com

Georgia Strange generates vivid surrealistic gestures by combining polychromed imaginary heads with over-sized clay body-parts and mounting them on hand-built steel armatures. **Fran Bull** shows a triptych entitled: *In Flanders Fields: Bones, Blood and Wedding Cloth*. These expressive etchings, printed on a gossamer pleated fabric, form part of Bull's larger War installation, *In Flanders Fields*. They hang like banners or curtains, with the intention of evoking both battlefield and the domestic realm. www.franbull.com

Mary Whalen uses early technologies of photography to simplify and slow down the process of observing, recording, and representing. "In using the wet plate collodion process to make tintypes, the photographic technique conjures the question of time, history and possibly a dream; a pile of sticks and branches, a pair of scissors and jar, subjects and objects that suggests a before and after moment asking the viewer to fill in the space/time in between." www.marywhalen.com

Gail Hoffman explores our perception of time in her miniature room installations of cast bronze and plastic figures. Working at dollhouse scale, she streams video images into the interiors, creating vignettes in a metaphorical and timeless psychic space of childhood memory, dreams and changing states of consciousness.

Barbara Rehg presents multimedia constructions on canvas with plexiglass overlay.

She describes having woken "one morning intending to destroy some old work. In the process of destruction; fresh, raw images emerged. I allowed myself to dwell on the exhilaration my mind was experiencing as it recognized something new being formed, discovered and uncovered."
<http://www.brehgstudios.com> www.masonmurer.com/artist/rehg_barbara.htm

In **Rosie G. Thompson** 2013 "Regeneration Series," six mixed media wood constructions reflect on life's cyclical nature and the impermanence of the moment. Her inter-generational characters engage in work, play, travel, and exploration, paying no mind to the mysterious floating figures in their midst or the central skeletal presence surrounded by flowers. www.tristatesculptors.org www.frankisart.com

Georgia Strange generates vivid surrealistic gestures by combining polychromed imaginary heads with over-sized clay body-parts and mounting them on hand-built steel armatures. georgiastrange.net

Eve Whitaker carves and constructs a world of quirky and haunting "dolls" in representation of the human form. These rough effigies become the receptacle for our projections and are in her words "a keeper of time." Most are carved plaster head with additions of oil paint, carved wooden body and base with additions of graphite and colored pencils, casein varnish, and oil paint. Some have cotton textile bodies that are suspended in air, others are imbedded with glass beads; a third grouping is based on costume designs and the face cards of a deck of cards.
www.evewhitaker.com www.buttonpettergallery.com

Elizabeth Michelman's brashly colored "sculptors' paintings" reveal the actions and slips of the artist's hand in cutting, tracing, and collaging remnants of commercial sign-vinyl. The compositions of her "Id-entity Series" derive their expressive patterns and heroic impact from repetitions and errors in formulating the letter "I" and iconic references to musical sound and the female body.
www.elizabethmichelman.com

SOHO20
C H E L S E A

547 W. 27TH STREET, SUITE 301 NEW YORK, NY 10001

212.367.8994 FAX 212.367.8984

TUES. – SAT. 12 – 6PM

info@soho20gallery.com www.soho20gallery.com

Invited Guests:

Carolyn Conrad's naturally lit studio constructions, employing photography, sculpture and installation and often represented by photographs, evoke moods of romanticized isolation "elevating the ordinary to a place of significance." www.carolynconradart.com

Justine Johnson distills and concentrates memories of transformative materials and videos of landscapes into a small keepsake box. www.justinejohnson.co.uk

Elena Lourenco's sculptural installations juxtapose imagery from domestic life and the natural world, addressing ideas of causality, change, loss and their resulting effects on the human psyche. www.eenalourenco.com

Tamsie Ringler works in the environmental and populist traditions of public art; her installations and sculptures integrate process, space and viewer as elements and witnesses. She is showing cast iron prints molded from the ground at Franconia Sculpture Park in Minnesota, part of a series of contemplative works that capture the interaction of our lives within landscape. www.tamsie.com

Cecelia Kane offers a pattern for constructing "life-sized transition wings," using art to overcome her own fear of the moment of death. www.ceceliakane.com, www.interwovenheart.blogspot.com

SOHO20
C H E L S E A

547 W. 27TH STREET, SUITE 301 NEW YORK, NY 10001

212.367.8994 FAX 212.367.8984

TUES. – SAT. 12 – 6PM

info@soho20gallery.com www.soho20gallery.com