



ESTEBAN SABAR GALLERY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 12, 2007

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“Gossamer Worlds & Quilted Quandries: A Group Show” in March Exhibition at Oakland’s Esteban Sabar Gallery

OAKLAND, Calif. (February 12, 2007) — Sensual and insightful mixed media works by artists Patricia Gillespie, Bethany Ayres and Hillary Kantmann in an exhibit at Esteban Sabar Gallery from March 1st to April 2nd, 2007. An artists’ reception takes place on Thursday, March 1st from 6:30 to 8pm.

Patricia Gillespie

Patricia Gillespie’s “quilted” images blur the boundaries of painting while their initial soft allure give way to cutting social insight.

Gillespie stretches hand-stitched quilting and batting over plywood frames and sets raised jig-sawed wood figures over the patterned backdrop. The resultant playful compositions capture a moment in a larger, unknown story, enticing the viewer to complete the narrative. While superficially a perspective of gender roles, Gillespie’s work humorously addresses the complexity of expectations we face in our daily lives.

“Internment Camp” depicts a reclining bustiered woman, “X-ray Vision” shows a woman ironing, and in “These Shoes Suck 1” a pair of legs sport stylish stilettos with an adhesive bandage on one ankle.

Bethany Ayres

Ayres’s new playful plywood paintings feature vignettes of personified nature and supernatural experience. Ayres continues her figurative narrative themes, with her graphic style and limited color schemes involving the increased challenge of fluorescent-stained panels, making contrast between colors even more magical and otherworldly than previous images.

In these new images, Ayres shows us moments of satisfaction, discovery, and happiness, including a living room bedecked in fluorescent orange French Country décor, a mermaid discovering a precious pearl lunch and sparrows gathering mysteriously together in celebration.

Ayres’s paintings have been reviewed in the East Bay Express, San Francisco Bay Guardian, and Diablo magazines and her work has been collected in several private and public collections, including The Detroit Institute of Art Museum.

Hillary Kantmann

Hillary Kantmann’s series of sensual, human-scale feathered sculptures organically emerge from the gallery walls and floors with feathery surfaces waving and fluttering from passerby’s movement, theatrically suggesting underwater plant life or creatures from mythology and science fiction. Their large, human sized scale and luxuriant, quivering surface treatment testify to Kantmann’s talent to transform a morphed, microbe shape into a believably personified being.

Hillary Kantmann has exhibited her work in Detroit; New York, NY, Oakland and San Francisco, CA.

Estaban Sabar Gallery is located at 480 23rd Street (*at Telegraph Avenue*), Oakland, California, 94612

Gallery hours are Monday, Thursday & Friday: 11am to 6pm; Saturday & Sunday: 12noon to 6pm; Tuesday and Wednesday: Closed.

For further information call 510/444-7411 or visit www.estebansabar.com.

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