

ALEX ADAM GALLERY

Annual Spring Art Flair

Your Art Collecting Adventure Starts Here

The Alex Adam Gallery invites you to join us in celebrating our first Spring Art Flair. The group exhibition is curated by Christie's Education M.A. graduate Patricia T. Li, and features both established and emerging talents including Dan Gheno, Benât Iglesias, Mary Beth McKenzie, Jonathan Shahn, Robin Smith, and Fumiko Toda. The exhibition showcases an intriguing dynamic of artistic styles, such as painterly landscape scenes, romantic portraits and female nudes, vibrant selections of monotype prints, dreamlike renderings of exotic beauties in nature, and finally juxtapositions of whimsical and ghostly sculptural portraits. Further, the gallery hopes to bring together the vibrant energies in New York's art community, and offer both experienced and emerging art lovers a chance to interact with artists and each other.

March 27-April 26, 2014

Opening Reception: Thursday, March 27, 6-8pm

Collectors Party: Saturday, April 5, 6-9pm

Dan Gheno

Most of Mr. Gheno's paintings are metaphorical in content. He says, "I'm fixated and focused on the human figure and the concerns of humanity's form, its anatomy, its environment, and its psychological concerns. I normally utilize the model as an actor, and I most often see the model as a player in a metaphorical tableau, depicting various states of mind, sometimes reflective of the communal human condition, sometimes directly autobiographical."

Mr. Gheno exhibits regularly, both nationally and in New York, at locations that have included the Museum of the City of New York, the National Academy Museum, the Butler Institute of American Art, the New Britain Museum of American Art, the Caro Gallery, the Limbo Gallery, the National Arts Club, the University of Hartford Art Gallery, Westmont College and Union County College.

Mr. Gheno is a member of the Pastel Society of America and the Allied Artists of America. His awards include a Rome grant from the Creative Artists Network. His artwork and writings have appeared in various magazines and books, including *American Artist*, *Drawing Magazine*, *Oil Highlights*, *Pastel Highlights*, *Portrait Highlights*, *The Best of Pastels II*, and on the cover of *The Best Sketching and Drawing*. His work was included in a recent book from the Museum of the City of New York, *Painting the Town*. He was the art critic for the *Santa Barbara News and Review* in the 1970s.

Mr. Gheno's work is included in several public and private collections including the Museum of the City of New York, the New Britain Museum of American Art, and the Griswold Museum, Connecticut.

Benât Iglesias

Benat Iglesias, a native of Spain, lives and works in New York. He approaches art through a variety of mediums, such as sculpture, painting, printmaking and photography. His artwork explores the varying relationships between popular culture and fine art, and takes a critical view of social, political and cultural issues.

For the last two years his focus has been on sculpture, creating a monumental sculpture installation, *The Bathers* (currently on display at the Riverside South Park on 59th St, NYC), and the *-HEAD SERIES: A Delicate Irony-*, which will be on display in a solo Show at the Alex Adam Gallery, NYC (May 2014). Michael L. Gitlitz, Director of Malrborough Gallery in NY, recently wrote "Mr. Iglesias's work is visually engaging and provocative, it prompts an immediate emotional response that leads to a dialogue between the sculpture and the viewer. In terms of technique, the compelling realism of the portraits show the expertise and gift for life modeling that distinguishes Benat Iglesias's entire portfolio."

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Mary Beth McKenzie

Mary Beth McKenzie is an American painter of contemporary figures in the realism style. She was born in Cleveland, Ohio and currently resides in New York City where she teaches art at National Academy of Design and the Art Students League of New York.

Her works of art are currently in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the National Museum of American Art, the Brooklyn Museum, the Museum of the City of New York, the National Museum of Women in the Arts, the Butler Institute of American Art, the New Britain Museum of American Art, the Art Students League of New York, and the National Academy of Design.

McKenzie authored and provided artwork for the book, "A Painterly Approach", Watson-Guption Publications, New York, October, 1987. She has also contributed articles to several magazines. McKenzie was elected to the National Academy in 1994. She has won numerous awards. She was educated at the Boston Museum of Fine Art, National Academy of Design, and Art Students League of New York, and the Cooper School of Art in Cleveland, and has studied with Robert Brackman, Daniel Greene, and Burton Silverman, among others.

Jonathan Shahn

Jonathan Shahn has been making sculpture, drawings and prints of the human figure since the early 1960s. He has exhibited his work frequently, both in the United States and in Europe. His most recent one-man show in New York was in 2010 at Lori Bookstein Gallery.

Mr. Shahn has taught at the Tyler School in Rome, Boston University, and the Maryland Institute, among others.

"I believe the hardest part of learning to make sculpture is learning how to look, trying to understand what is seen, and how these perceptions are influenced by what we know (or think we know) and by our memory. This perception and knowledge and memory of the observed world, and of the art of the past and present, all come together in the making of each sculpture."

Robin Smith

Born in 1959, this Connecticut native has lived and worked as an artist in New York City since the early 90's. She has exhibited extensively in group shows in the city, and her work is in several private and public collections including the New Britain Museum of American Art and the permanent collection of the Art Students League in New York. Her work has appeared in various art magazines such as "Drawing Magazine," and in several art books including most recently, "The Classical Art Studio." She studied at the Rhode Island School of Design, The National Academy of Design and at the Art Students League of New York.

Fumiko Toda

Japanese artist Fumiko Toda grew up in a countryside in Japan. Young Toda often escaped to a nearby pond where she would observe insects and bugs for hours. These tiny creatures eventually worked their way into her artwork, where they remain to this day. She eventually studied at the Sugii Art Institution in Mie, and graduated from Kyoto University of Art and Design in 2000. In 2001, Toda moved to New York City, where she studied painting at the National Academy of Fine Art. Toda moves seamlessly between the realms of painting and printmaking and has exhibited her work extensively. Her paintings and prints have an obsessive quality of intricate detail, repetition of forms and patterns, all rendered with colors so vibrant, as to appear as if they were ground from pure minerals and substances found only in nature, or in the insects themselves.

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Gallery Hours: Thursday-Saturday, 12-5pm and by appointment