

***** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE *****

The Human Form Dominates Two Exhibits of Painting and Drawing

A Selection: 1999 – 2001: Paintings by Boris Zakic
and
String of Beads: Drawings by Sol Kjøk

January 27 – February 24, 2006
at

**Manifest Creative Research Gallery
and Drawing Center**

OPENING RECEPTION: Friday, January 27, 6-10 p.m. (the artists will be present)
(refreshments will be served, sponsored by Simone's and the Echo Restaurant)

GALLERY HOURS: Tuesday through Friday 2 – 7:00 p.m., Sat. 12 – 5 p.m. (during exhibit run)

LOCATION: 2727 Woodburn Avenue, East Walnut Hills, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206
(Just south of Madison Rd. at DeSales Corner. Map is available at www.manifestgallery.org/map)

PARKING: On street and parking across the street in DeSales Business Lot

CONTACT: Jason Franz, exhibit curator and Manifest Executive Director at info@manifestgallery.org

PUBLIC LECTURE: **Free Artist's Slide Lecture by Sol Kjøk - Saturday, Jan. 28th, 6 p.m. "Suspended Bodies, Swirling Balls and Strings of Beads" will reveal the artist's process and discuss the personal symbology in her work. To be held at Manifest Gallery. E-mail lectures@manifestgallery.org to RSVP for the free talk.

GALLERY PHONE: 513-861-3638

FOR MORE INFO:
<http://www.manifestgallery.org>

FULL COLOR EXHIBIT CATALOG WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE:
<http://www.manifestgallery.org/manifestpress>

Manifest's combination of Boris Zakic (main gallery) and Sol Kjøk (drawing room) brings together two foreign-born artists who now call the United States home, and who both have (or have had) a connection to the Cincinnati region. Both artists incorporate the human figure as subject matter into their works, which are made through traditional techniques but non-traditional concepts and processes. In both cases, the results offer the benefit of traditional hand skills and pictorial values, with the mystery, drama, and conceptual sophistication of contemporary artistic theory.

These exhibits are sponsored in part by an Arts Access Grant from the **Ohio Arts Council**, and the **Fine Arts Fund**. *String of Beads: Drawings by Sol Kjøk* is specifically sponsored by the **Norwegian Consulate General**, **The George Sugarman Foundation**, and the **Ruth Chenven Foundation**.

What you'll see:

- seven large paintings exhibiting classical realism mixed with poignant visual philosophy
- enormous graphite drawings of dozens of figures – including a ball of humanity
- strings of beads
- intricate and diminutive line drawings of very active little nudes – covering a wall salon-style

**A Selection: 1999 - 2001
Paintings by Boris Zakic**

Curated by Jason Franz

Boris Zakic is an internationally exhibited and collected painter currently chairing the Georgetown College department of art in Georgetown, Kentucky. His often very large, and crisply clean paintings offer a playful, ironic, and sometimes haunting experience of conceptual trompe l'oeil. His masterful realism is mixed with a postmodern play of symbol, and artifice, to illustrate psychological drama, often of characters seemingly lost in a world of paint. Zakic's works most often include references to the human figure, as well as implied commentary on the relationships of photography and painting (image making) to life.

Boris Zakic (pronounced: za-kich) received the first art training at Gimnazija in Zrenjanin (Serbia and Montenegro) and its local art scene provided some of the earliest influences. Since 1992, he has lived in the United States. Received an MFA at University of New Orleans in 2000 and the "Neue Dimensions in Wissenschaft" Award (by Raum und Zeit, Germany) for the Translations Paintings in 2004. Zakic's areas of study are the philosophy of Jean-Francois Lyotard, the photographic and the reproducibility in general. He has been on the faculty at Georgetown College (KY) since 2000, where he currently teaches painting.



NeStvarnost (detail), 1999, oil on linen, 30x60"



Coloring as an Assassin (detail), 2001, oil on linen, 62x50"



Viewer Friendly (detail), 2000, oil on linen, 48x72"
Private Collection

String of Beads

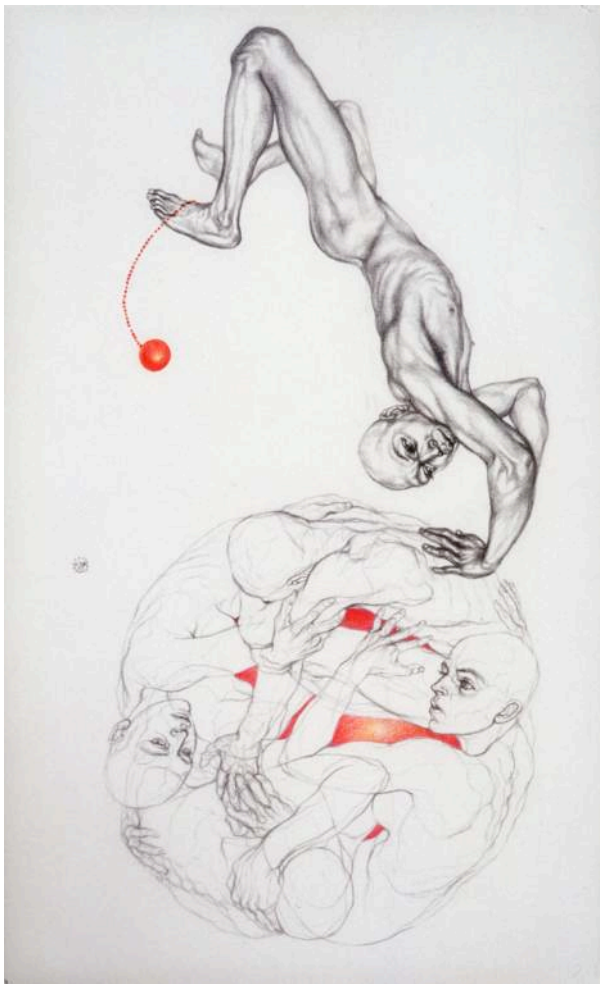
Drawings by Sol Kjøk

Curated by Jason Franz

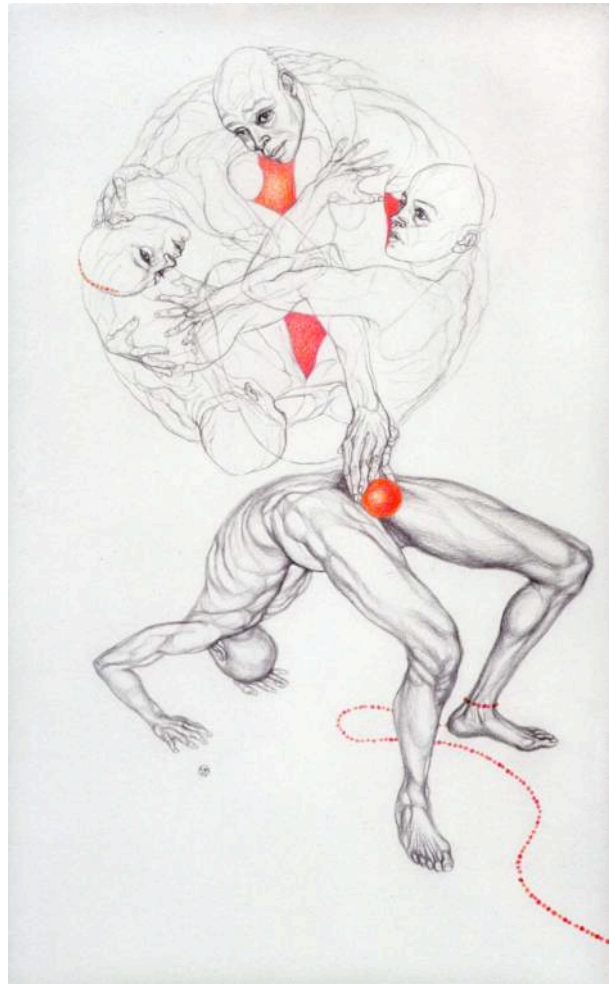
Sponsored by: The George Sugarman Foundation, The Ruth Chenven Foundation, Inc., and the Norwegian Consulate General

Sol Kjøk is also an internationally exhibited and collected artist. Three of her drawings were included in Manifest's inaugural exhibit *Terrestrial Domains*. Her intricate line drawings of human figures echo the works of great masters of the past, like Michelangelo, Durer, and Leonardo da Vinci. However the swirling combinations, and otherworldly, even dreamlike, interactions of her characters as well as the inclusion of her ever-present scarlet orb, bring the works to the forefront of contemporary drawing.

Born in Norway, Sol left her tiny mountain village at 16 years of age, and has since then lived and learned in Paris, Vienna, Medellín and a number of U.S. cities. Virtually self-taught in artistic techniques, she finally obtained an MFA from Parsons, NYC, in 1998, and currently lives and works in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. An award-winning artist whose work is represented in museum collections, she has actively exhibited her paintings and drawings across the globe since she was a teenager. Her ongoing series of figurative images in various media, *String of Beads*, has been shown in several venues in the U.S. and Europe since 2005.



String of Beads 43, 2005
Pencil + colored pencil on paper, 8.25" x 14"



String of Beads 45, 2005
Pencil + colored pencil on paper, 8.25" x 14"