



Thinkspace Art Gallery
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Tumbling

New works and an installation from
Lesley Reppeteaux

Also showing in our project room:

Sunnyside-Yard featuring new works from **Zach Johnsen**

Come Wander With Me featuring new works from **Paul Barnes**

Opening Reception: Friday, Sept. 12th 7-11PM

On View: Sept. 12th – Oct. 3rd, 2008

(Los Angeles, CA) Thinkspace Gallery is proud to present Tumbling. This exhibition will feature new paintings from Portland, OR based artist Lesley Reppeteaux in her second solo exhibition with our gallery, which follows an extremely well received two-person show from last season with OH based artist Chris Ryniak.

Tumbling... to fall helplessly down, end over end, as by losing one's footing, support, or equilibrium; to plummet, spill, stumble, or topple; to plunge headlong.

Lesley Reppeteaux is a storyteller whose paintings are deeply affected by the marriage of art and literature. Drawing influences from the Art Nouveau movement, vintage postcards, and the wonder of nature, the characters in her work celebrate strong ethereal beauty and invoke a femininity whose power is all-encompassing. Through a mindful balance of vision and improvisation, Reppeteaux submerges her viewers in an exploration of themes consisting of dream-like adventures and otherworldly mysteries.

With Tumbling, Reppeteaux has created a series of works based on the Greek Myth of Hades and Persephone. As with all myths, the story of Persephone is an allegory of life, which itself is a mixture of happiness and sadness; love and hatred; loyalty and betrayal.

Reppeteaux received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Illustration in 1998 from the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design in Denver, CO, and has been painting professionally for the past 10 years. She is a published comic book author and illustrator and has exhibited her paintings at galleries in London, Melbourne, Berlin, and Tokyo, on both coasts of the U.S.A. and at many cities in between. She has been featured in HI-Fructose, ISM Quarterly, Art Prostitute, and Lemonade Magazine.

She prefers her clothes splattered with acrylic paint, and her workspace filled with tipped jars of brushes and numerous children books. She travels extensively and has lived in Canada, Europe, and all over the U.S.A. Reppeteaux currently resides in Portland, OR - home of zines, strong coffee, and galoshes.

Website: <http://www.reppeteaux.com/>

Blog: <http://adventures-disasters.blogspot.com/>

Sneak Peek of "Tumbling": <http://flickr.com/photos/thinkspace/sets/72157606213631043/detail/>

Also opening on Fri, September 12th in our project room:

Sunnyside-Yard - Zach Johnsen

Zachariah Johnsen is a young artist concentrating in watercolor, pen & ink, and mixed media works on paper and wood as well as oil works on canvas. His medium of choice is the micron pen and he uses them exhaustively to describe a world of ghouls, monsters, and misfits – the shady characters in everyday life, but just hidden from normal view. Zach focuses on the more ignored side of life – on the sides of people and places that visitors rarely see. In Johnsen's world, most of the people have obvious human/animal hybrids that can't be hidden. The corrupt politician is a hideous beast wielding an ax and smoking a cigar. The Hollywood actress is a washed-up, half rat w/ open sores surrounded by a mob of rabid birds. The family portrait is a gaggle of jelly drop characters and mutated fish creatures.

Johnson has lent this fantastic world and his unique style of frenetic pen lines and loose, splashy water-based media to a number of surfaces and media across the industries. He has created original works for print and publications, skateboards, skis, furniture, sneakers, snowboards, clothing and apparel.

Having gained recognition across the United States, Australia, and Europe, Johnsen is now concentrating on expanding his visual range – into paintings on canvas and installation works to video and motion graphics. With a number of exhibitions and published works under his belt, Johnson has become recognized as an artist whose future is much brighter than the often dark content of his work.

With Sunnyside-Yard, Johnsen is creating a series of mixed media works on hand-cut life-size wood figures that will inhabit the darkest corners of our project room, making for a very unique and haunting viewing experience for our patrons.

Artist website: <http://www.zenvironments.com>

Sneak Peek of "Sunnyside-Yard": <http://flickr.com/photos/thinkspace/sets/72157606482173327/detail/>

AND select new small works on view on the small wall in our project room:

Come Wander With Me – new works from Paul Barnes

Paul Barnes:

I guess my closeness to nature and the slight isolation of growing up in the rural north of Scotland, along with my fascination of its ancient traditions rich in folklore and legend no doubt forms the basis of my work, no matter how much I try to escape it.

It's this inspiration, from a very early age, that fuels a big part of my imagination today.

Resurrecting the creatures from my childhood memories, conscious of the innocence and naivety in the forms, I enjoy playing with them like I did as a child.

I try hard to make my paintings look old, to recapture my visions with a feeling of timelessness and space, kind of like a dream or distant memory that has become all blurry and faded.

I feel very lucky to have had some interest in my paintings in the USA lately and am honored to have shown in galleries such as La Luz de Jesus, Billy Shire Fine Arts, DVA Gallery, Carmichael Gallery, and Gallery 1988, alongside so many incredible artists who have become a new and important inspiration to me.

Artist website: <http://www.paul-barnes.com>

Sneak Peek of "Come Wander With Me": <http://flickr.com/photos/thinkspace/sets/7215760648237842/>

Thinkspace Gallery is located at 4210 Santa Monica Blvd (near Sunset Junction), in the Silver Lake area, Los Angeles - CA 90029. Gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday, 1:00 to 6:00PM, and by appointment. For more information, please call 323.913.3375, visit www.thinkspacegallery.com, or email contact@sourharvest.com.

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