

The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper

Victor Klassen

Ethnic Convergence February 22 - April 3, 2007



Commentary by Julie Oakes

Victor Klassen

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Victor Klassen

Julie Oakes

Pure abstraction is untainted by direct references to the physical world although it can provoke associations with elements from our corporeal existence. It is a product of the mind and because it is less concerned with the material world - although tied by the medium to the art world - it grants a picture of the make-up of consciousness. Man is aware of himself as an individual identity and yet where he places himself, the extreme 'I', is more a sense of belief or an idea than a realized concept. And thus, abstraction embodies mind, wherein the spirit is housed. Victor Klassen presents a picture of the interlacing thoughts and spaces between (as in 'spaced out') His work lends an intricacy that supports the dexterity of the mind as the eye travels along the colorful ropy highways, back into the depths of space and even now and again flying off the page, only to be drawn back into the maze with an invitation to consider visual phenomena, a product of the mind.

The richness of colors parallels the fabric of a life that has integrated cultures and religions (with their attendant visuals) into the solid homespun cloth of a Mennonite upbringing. Victor Klassen comes from a Canadian Mennonite family. He practices an Eastern meditation discipline - Vipasana. He has lived in Mexico for the past twenty years where he married a Mexican woman and has raised his daughter with dual citizenships. His life, infused with the diversity of vastly different cultural influences is reflected in his work, woven from a saturated palette to form a ground of color that is broken periodically by visual exclamations. His exposure to global influence produced a true ethnic convergence for he is an artist who has assimilated and processed the possibilities of a borderless existence, a deep actualization of world peace.

The product that Klassen hands over is a tool that allows the viewer to escape the round of earthly things and engage in a more elevated conversation with visual phenomena. It is like the space inside the head when with eyes shut, the traces of perception gradually recede and a freer and less constrained sense takes over. An untarnished field of color and light is there to be explored with tangential connections and veils lifted. This is when abstraction is pure, unattached to the agendas of virtual reality and let loose.



No Title acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches 2006



Working The Colour acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches 2006



Entering acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches 2006



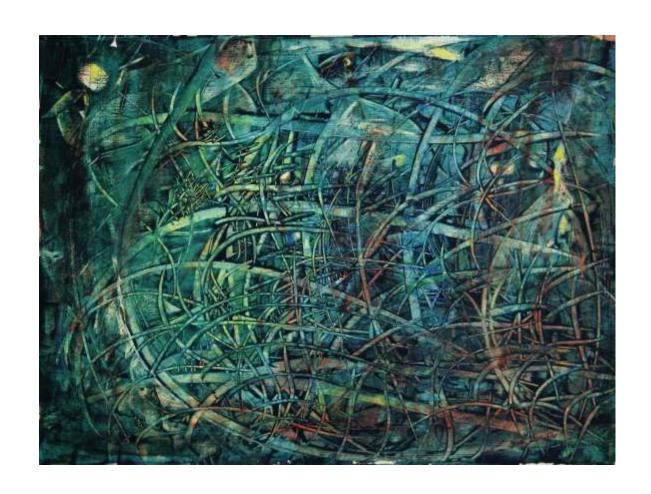
Gunning Down The Forest acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches 2006



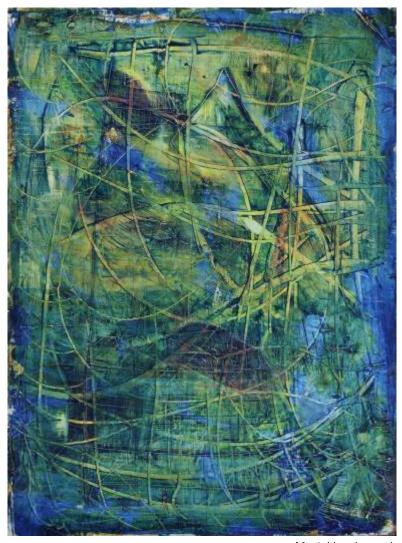
No Title acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches 2006



Abstract acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches 2006



Trying To See Clearly acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches 2006



Mental Landscape In Blue acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches 2006



Listening acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches 2006



What Water Sings acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches 2006

Victor Klassen

Education UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA. Nsukka, E. Nigeria, Historia of Africa. 1964-65.

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO. Waterloo, Ontario, Canada., History degree 1965-67.

Additional Studies
Tai Chi Chuan, Toronto, Canada.
Meditacion Vipassana, Meditation. 1985.
Study of Colour Theory and drawing with Luis Quintanilla, 1985.

Exposicions CASA DE CULTURA, Valle de Bravo, Mex. Mex Colective, Bronze and Word sculpture, 2006

CASA DE CULTURA, Valle de Bravo, Mex.Mex Individual, Acyrlic Paintings, Bronze and Word sculpture, 2006

CASA DE CULTURA, Valle de Bravo, Mex. Mex. Bronze and Word scuplture Exposición Colectiva, 2005

HOTEL FOUR SEASONS, Mexico, D.F. Scuplture in Word and Bronze, 2005

CASA DE CULTURA, Valle De Bravo, Estado de Mexico Wood sculpture Exposición Colectiva 2004 CASA DE CULTURA , Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico Wood sculpture

Exposición Colectiva. 2003

SALA DE EXPOSICIONES DE LA UAEM, Toluca ,Mexico Wood and Bronze sculpture Acyrlic paintings Individual 2003

MUSEO J.A. PAGAZA I.M.C., Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico Wood scuplture Exposición Colectiva. 2002.

ART NOVA, Polanco, Ciudad de Mexico Wood and Bronze scuplture Permanent exposición 2002

MUSEO J.A. PAGAZA I.M.C., Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico Wood Sculpture Colective . 2001.

CASA DE CULTURA, Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico Wood sculpture Colectiva. 2001.

ARTE Y ENCUENTRO, Polanco, Ciudad de Mexico Wood and Bronze Exposición permanente. 1996.

SUMMA ARTIST, Polanco, Ciudad de Mexico Wood and Bronze Exposición permanente. 1998 INSTITUTO CULTURAL JUAREZ, Toluca, Estado de Mexico Wood and Bronze Colectiva. 1997

SUMMA ARTIST, Polanco, Ciudad de Mexico Wood and Bronze Colectiva. 1997

CASA DE ADOBE, Toluca, Estado de Mexico Wood and Bronze Colectiva. 1997.

ARTE Y ENCUENTRO, Wood and Bronze Colectiva, 1996.

LAUGHING AT THE SUN GALLERY, Austin, Texas, Estados Unidos. Wood and Bronze Colectiva. 1996.

LAS JAULAS, Polanco, Mexico, D.F. Wood and Bronze Exposición individual. 1996.

CENTRO CULTURAL J.A. PAGAZA, IMC, Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico "Formas de esperanza"

Acyrlic Paintings, Wood and Bronze Sculpture Exposición individual. 1996.

GALERIA JLS, Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico Wood sculpture Exposición colectiva. 1994.

CENTRO TONATZIN Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico Bronze and wood Sculpture, 1992.

GALLERIE ROCHON Toronto, Ontario Wood sculpture Exposición individual. 1992.

CASA DE CULTURA Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico Wood and Bronze sculpture 1990.

GALERIA JLS Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico Acyflic Paintings, Wood and Bronze sculpture Exposición colectiva. 1990.

CASA DE CULTURA Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico "Sillas" Sculptural furniture Exposición colectiva. 1987.

