



The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper

Tom Ackermann

An Exotic Erotic Christmas
December 9 - January 11, 2007



Commentary by Julie Oakes

Tom Ackermann

An Exotic Erotic Christmas

December 9 - January 11, 2007

Commentary by Julie Oakes

Artist Catalog, 'Tom Ackermann - Headbones Gallery The Drawers '
Copyright © 2006, Headbones Gallery

Commentary by Julie Oakes
Copyright © 2007, Julie Oakes

Images Copyright © 2007, Tom Ackermann

Rich Fog Micro Publishing, printed in Toronto, 2007
Layout and Design, Richard Fogarty

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, except as may be expressly permitted by the 1976 copyright act or in writing from Headbones Gallery. Requests for permission to use these images should be addressed in writing to Tom Ackermann, c/o Headbones Gallery, 260 Carlaw Avenue, Unit 102, Toronto, Ontario M4M 3L1 Canada
Telephone/Facsimile: 416-465-7352 Email: info@headbonesgallery.com
Director: Richard Fogarty
www.headbonesgallery.com

Tom Ackermann

Julie Oakes

Inside plastic boxes so that they can't be touched, turned over, or pinched to test their virtual reality, nor can they be marred, the wax sculptures by Tom Ackermann are a mixture of attraction and repulsion. They are not comely beings but they're also not completely ugly. The petite figurine is infused with the air of better times, like a Barbie doll memory gone wrong, as if the coated feminine plaything might have fallen into the hands of a boy, prepubescent and experimenting on his hapless subjects. And with boyish delight the naughty contortions have been creatively indulged. There is the residue of a gleeful, willful wickedness - "what can I do to her *now?!?*" Ackermann has had his way with Barbie and the offspring of the strange coupling appears to carry a mutant gene.

There is also a strange beauty in Ackermann's waxen and molten fluctuations of humanoid forms that have an unrealized quality as if they didn't quite reach full term and were relegated to an everlasting nascent region where beginnings were halted and fixed in wax. There is the inference of a prototypical mold that has not yet been approved for full-on production. It is this 'original' prescience that grants the little forms their attraction. Despite the severance from recognized fetal, fairy or baby forms, they have an understandable and acceptable proportion.

The latex molds on paper work in much the same way with more of an experimental time line implied. They seem like sketches for the finished works, with the freedom to try on more skews as if Tom Ackermann allowed himself to be even more manipulative with his company of dolls. Like Gericault bringing in his body parts, there is a curious question as to what Ackermann will bring into his studio next.



Position 49, Blue
mixed media & wax, 11 x 10 x 9 in
2003



Position 50, Blue
mixed media & wax, 11 x 10 x 9 in
2003



Position 47, Blue
mixed media & wax, 11 x 10 x 9 in
2003



Position 48, Blue
mixed media & wax, 11 x 10 x 9 in
2003



Position 10
mixed media & wax, 15 x 11 x 7 in
2003



Position 20
latex rubber, 16 x 20 in
2004



Position 35
latex rubber, 20 x 16 in
2004



Position 23
latex rubber, 16 x 22 in
2004



Rubber Baby St. Christopher
latex rubber, 20 x 16 in
2004



Rubber St. Christopher
latex rubber, 20 x 16 in
2004

Tom Ackermann

NOTEWORTHY

- 2006 1st. Prize Gallery Lambton "Look Show"
1998 1st. Prize Gallery Lambton "Look Show"
1997 The Qabala Paintings Catalogue , Gallery Lambton and Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery
1993 Thomas Ackermann. Paintings, 1973 - 1993, Galery Onder De Toren, Belg Catalogue published with text in English, French, German and Spanish.
1993 1st. Prize Painting Category, Biennial de la Pintura, Murcia, Spain
1992 1st . Prize Painting, Jornadas Nacionales, Macael Spain
1975 Ontario Arts Council grant

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2005 "The Disasters of War" Gallery Lambton, Sarnia Ont.
"Say No" The Energy Exchange, Sarnia, Ont.
2004 "Larger than Life" Gallery Bibianne, Toronto Ont.
2002 "Cards and Clones" The Arts Project, London, Ont.
2001 "Intense Flowers" Lovart, Forest
2000 "Sleeping With Jesus", St. Johns Anglican Church, Kettle Point Reserve
1998 "The Qabala Paintings", Kitchener/Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener,
"Recent Paintings" , Kleinman Fine Art, Cleveland, Ohio, USA
1997 "The Qabala Paintings", Gallery Lambton ,Sarnia ,Ontario
1996 Gallery in the Grove, Brights Grove, Ontario
1995 Gallery Sureste, Granada, Spain
"Buddhas" Gallery Gevaert, Zwevezele, Belgium
"Viennese Variations," Guild Hall, Sarnia
1994 "Revising the Sacred", Arts on King, Toronto, Ontario"
"Vibrations of a Higher Consciousness", Victoria Hall Gallery, Petrolia
"Recent Paintings and Drawings" Kenneith Gallery, Sarnia, Ont.

- 1993 "Saints and Symbols", Kunstmuseum, Bad Hersfeld, Germany
 "Searching the Enfolded Symmetry", Kenneith Gallery, Sarnia, Ontario
- 1992 "The Hunters" La Casa de la Cultura, Aguilas, Spain.
 "20 Years of Painting" Galeri Onder de Toren, Veurne, Belgium.
 "Pinturas y Banderas" El Centro Cultural de la Ciudad de Lorca, Spain.
 "The Hunters" El Torre, Villaricos, Almeria, Spain
- 1982 "Recent Works" Goethe Institute.
- 1978 1981 Studio Gallery 9, Toronto.
- 1976 Gallery Goldframe, Toronto
- 1975 The Learning Resource Centre, Toronto

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2006 Cross Country Selection, Headbones Gallery, Toronto, Ont.
- 2006 "Chemical" Sarnia Artist Collective, The Arts Project, London, Ont.
- 2005 "Erdegruppe" Group show with group of 7 painters, Gallery Lambton
- 2004 "Blue" Gallery Bibianne, Toronto
 Erdegruppe Munclinger " Inaugural Show, Sarnia, Ontario
- 2003 The Toronto International Art Fair, Toronto, Ont.
 Gallery Artists, Lovart, Forest, Ont.
- 1996-99 The "Look" Show, Gallery Lambton, Sarnia
- 1994 47th Annual Western Ontario Exhibition, Museum London, Ont.
- 1993 Biennial De La Pintura, Murcia, Spain
 Exposicion Nacional de Pintura y Escultura, Valdepenas, Ciudad Real, Spain
- 1992 "Pintors Almariense" Ayuntamiento Garrucha, Almeria
 IV Jornadas Nacionales de Escultura, Pintura y Diseno, Macael, Spain
- 1991 "Exposicion Complutense" Purchena, Almeria
- 1986 Magder Studio, Scarborough.
- 1986 *Artists' Space, Hamilton.*
- 1982 Studio Gallery 9, Toronto
- 1982 Palais de Congres, Montreal.

- 1978 B'nai B'rith, Toronto.
1976 Rural Centre, Mono Mills, Ontario.
1974 Exhibits in libraries and various student shows

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- Kunstmuseum Stadt, Bad Hersfeld, Hessen, Germany
Casa de la Cultura, Aguilas, Almeria, Spain
El Tercio, Ayuntamiento Cuevas del Almanzora, Spain
Lambton Gallery, Sarnia, Ontario
El Centro Cultural de Lorca, Murcia, Spain
The Learning Resource Centre, Toronto
Escuela de Marmol, Macael, Spain
Casey House, Toronto

RICH FOG



Micro Publishing
Toronto Canada