

DOLBY CHADWICK GALLERY

Joshua Meyer

November 7–30, 2013

Dolby Chadwick Gallery is pleased to announce *Rustle, Sparkle, Flutter, Float*, an exhibition of new work by Joshua Meyer, on view November 7–30, 2013. Although Meyer paints from reality, his paintings thwart the notion that there can be any such thing as objective reality. Instead, the figures and forms he chooses reveal the world as filtered through the complex network of thoughts, feelings, experiences, and impressions that constitute his singular vantage point. Reflecting on Giorgio Morandi, Meyer sheds light on his own practice: “he paints only from reality and only about reality, yet it always seems obvious that he doesn’t trust the facts. And yet his job is to show us the world as he sees it. Art is what we measure ourselves against.”

Unburdened by premeditated processes and overarching themes, Meyer’s paintings instead achieve cohesion through their tendency to “talk among themselves, and occasionally conspire.” One unifying line of inquiry taken up across the works concerns the role of ambiguity and uncertainty in our lives. “I am more and more immersed in the fragility of all of the truths and ideas we hold dear,” Meyer explains, alluding to the tenuousness of knowledge and the swiftness with which our understandings about the world, others, and ourselves can dissipate. This constant making and remaking of the real is undergirded by his remarkable ability to implicate the viewer in the creative process. As each composition’s single, central figure dematerializes from a dense nest of brushstrokes into a pictorial space on the edge of abstraction, the audience is invited to play an active role in reconstructing the progressively open images.

Meyer’s paintings expose and conceal, excite shifts in perspective, and allow understandings to emerge over time. As the viewer’s eyes pass across *Undergrowth* (2013), for example, the form of a young boy lying on his stomach—hands propping up his head and gaze fixed on something unknown—is offered up and then quickly folded back into the dynamic, heavily impastoed surface. Subjectivity, for Meyer, is inescapable, and our grasp of the world is predicated on the capricious web of connections through which we move.

As modeling is an intense and time-consuming activity, Meyer’s figures are based on a small, rotating cast of friends and family members. In recent years, two of his children have made routine visits to their father’s studio. Because these young models are at a stage of accelerated physical and mental development, the resulting paintings consequently embrace notions of growth and transition. The young boy in *Undergrowth*, for instance, is set within a field of greens, yellows, and browns; as indexes of leaves and botanical life more broadly, the markings reinforce the cognate cycle of human maturation and, ultimately, instability and impermanence. Such concerns complement the larger epistemological concerns that ground Meyer’s entire practice.

Joshua Meyer was born in 1974 in Lubbock, TX. He currently lives and works in Cambridge, MA. He earned his BA from Yale University in 1996 and has since exhibited across the United States, Asia and Europe. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including a prestigious Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant in 2008 and a grant from the San Francisco-based Sustainable Arts Foundation in 2011. This will be Meyer’s third solo exhibition at the Dolby Chadwick Gallery. A catalog will be published on the occasion of the show and available through the Gallery.

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Joshua Meyer

EDUCATION

- 1996 Yale University, New Haven, CT, BA with Distinction in Art
- 1995 Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Jerusalem, Israel, Certificate

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2013 *Rustle, Sparkle, Flutter, Float*, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Paintings, Argazzi Art, Lakeville, CT
- 2012 *Pauses*, Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2010 *Everything in Between*, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Intermingle, Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2009 *Scattered Syllables*, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2008 *Wandering and Wondering*, Nesto Gallery, Milton Academy, Milton, MA
- 2007 Lowe Gallery, Atlanta, GA
Philadelphia Museum of Jewish Art, Philadelphia, PA
Lowe Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
38 Cameron Gallery, Cambridge, MA
- 2006 *Becoming*, The Bronfman Center at NYU, New York, NY
Becoming, The Joseph Slifka Center at Yale, New Haven, CT
- 2004 *Tohu vaVohu*, Hebrew College, Goldman Gallery, Newton, MA.
38 Cameron Gallery, Cambridge, MA
- 2003 *Courting Incoherence*, The Joseph Slifka Center at Yale, New Haven, CT
- 2001 *Art as Prayer, Prayer as Art*, Jewish Community Center, New Haven, CT
Front Street, Salem, MA
- 2000 Front Street, Salem, MA
- 1999 Gallery 57, Cambridge, MA
- 1996 The Joseph Slifka Center at Yale, New Haven, CT

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 *New Works* (two person show), Paul Scott Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ
- 2010 Cultural Center of Cape Cod, MCC Painting Invitational, South Yarmouth, MA
- 2009 Spruill Center for the Arts, Atlanta, GA. *Go Figure: Contemporary Interpretations of Figurative Art*, Curated by Hope Cohn
- 2008 Paul Scott Gallery, inaugural exhibition, Scottsdale, AZ
Masur Museum of Art, 35th Annual Juried Competition, Monroe, LA
- 2007 Schiltkamp Gallery, Clark University, Worcester, MA
- 2006 UMass Boston Healey Library, Faith Alive 2006, Boston, MA
Gallery 33, Tel Aviv, Israel. *Emptiness*, with Meir Appelfeld, Bronlyn Jones, Aaron Norfolk and Stuart Shils
- 2005 38 Cameron Gallery, with Deborah Barlow, Don Gurewitz, Hwae Jung and Riki Moss, Cambridge, MA
- 2004 38 Cameron Gallery, with Hwae Jung and Stephen Sheield, Cambridge, MA
- 2003 San Diego Art Institute, International Exhibition, San Diego, CA
- 2002 Stonewall Studios, Stonewall Studios Celebration of the Arts
- 2000 Booth Contemporary Art, Wakefield, RI. *Select Work*
- 1999 Starr Gallery, Newton, MA. *Distinguishing/Distinguished Jewish*, curated by Louis Kaplan

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- Perkins Gallery, Stoughton, MA, Biblical Visions
Booth Contemporary Art, Wakefield, RI. Raw Talent
1998 Boston Center For The Arts, ARTcetera
1996 Thesis Exhibition, The Little Gallery, Yale University, New Haven, CT
1995 Bezalel Student Exhibition, Jerusalem, Israel
1991 National Art League, Hartford, CT

PUBLICATIONS

- Bill Lowe Gallery Twentieth Anniversary Catalog, Bill Lowe Gallery, July 2009.
2009 Talents, catalog, Paul Scott Gallery, February 2009.
Wednesday Evenings: Paintings of Sharrona Pearl, special edition artist's book by Joshua Meyer, hardbound, 17 full color illustrations, 8 by 8 inches, 2007.
Becoming, catalog, essay by Sharrona Pearl, May 2006.
Tohu vaVohu: Hebrew College presents paintings by Joshua Meyer, catalog, essay by Steve Copeland, June 2004.
Joshua Meyer: Paintings, catalog, February, 2001.
Distinguishing/Distinguished Jewish, catalog, essay by Louis Kaplan, December, 2000.
Slideshow: Paintings That Hang in the Balance. The Arty Semite Blog in The Jewish Daily Forward; Renee Ghert-Zand, January 12, 2011.
'Everything in Between' Joshua Meyer Painting. San Francisco Chronicle; Nirmala Nataraj, December 2, 2010.
Cambridge Chronicle, Five Cambridge artists get grants, January 29, 2010.
ArtQ Magazine, Josh Meyer's Paintings, January 14, 2010.
Words Without Borders, Long Story Short: International Flash Fiction (cover), January 2010.
Joshua Meyer: A Brave American Painter, Valerie Mathews, December 27, 2009.
Artistaday, November 30, 2009. Artnet News, Sept. 24, 2009.
ArtBusiness.com, San Francisco Art Galleries Openings, March 2009.
Burn Away, Go Figure at Spruill Gallery, Ben Grad, February 24, 2009.
Hebrew College Today, Artist Joshua Meyer presents "Seek", Winter 2008.
Hebrew College Currents, Joshua Meyer presents painting to honor President Gordis December 2007.
Atlanta Jewish Times, Wandering Through His Own Mind, Suzi Brozman, May 18, 2007.
The Philadelphia Metro, The Knives Have It, Dorothy Robinson, May 2, 2007.
The Philadelphia Daily News, A Cut Above, April 27, 2007.
The New York Metro, Check this Out, September 13, 2006.
The New York Sun, Figures in Color, August 21, 2006.
Connecticut Jewish Ledger, Paintings by Yale Grad on display at Slifka Center, Howard Blas, June 2, 2006.
New Haven Register, Heavily textured 'Becoming' draws from primitive energy, Judy Birke, May 21, 2006.
Makor Rishon, Tel Aviv, Omer Lachmanovitz, March 20, 2006.
The Boston Metro, Divine Beauty, Michael Freidson, December 11, 2004.
Sh'ma, Creating a Jewish Arts Community, Joshua Meyer, February 2005.
The Jewish Press, Painting the Void: Joshua Meyer at Hebrew College Gallery, Menachem Wecker, October 22, 2004.
Roslindale + West Roxbury Transcript, Hebrew College Exhibit, October 7, 2004.
Brookline Tab, Art and Jewish Creation, September 16, 2004.
The Daily News Tribune, September 16, 2004.

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The Daily News Tribune, Art, Judaism and creation talk at Hebrew College, September 13, 2004.

The Jewish Advocate, Hebrew College features artist Josh Meyer, September 10, 2004.

Boston Globe, Artist finds his inspiration in the time before creation, Denise Taylor, August 26, 2004.

Boston Phoenix, August 20, 2004.

Artsmedia, Summer 2004.

The Jewish Advocate, Giving a form to our world, Penny Schwartz, July 9, 2004

Gleanings, Tohu vaVohu, July-August, 2004.

Boston Metro, Big fat Meyer, June 30, 2004.

The "Commanding Vision" of Joshua Meyer, syndicated in:

Arlington Advocate, June 24, 2004, Beacon Villager, June 24, 2004, Beacon, Acton Edition, June 24, 2004, Belmont Citizen-Herald, June 24, 2004, Billerica Minuteman, June 24, 2004, Burlington Union, June 24, 2004, Chelmsford Independent, June 24, 2004, Concord Journal, June 24, 2004, Lexington Minuteman, June 24, 2004, Lincoln Journal, June 24, 2004, Tewksbury Advocate, June 24, 2004, Stoneham Sun, June 23, 2004, Westford Eagle, June 24, 2004, Wilmington Advocate, June 24, 2004, Winchester Star, June 24, 2004 Newton Tab, New art exhibit on display at Hebrew College, June 23, 2004.

MeltonArts.org, Tohu vaVohu and The Jewish Artist, Joshua Meyer, December 2003.

The Joseph Slifka Center Calendar, 2003–2004. The Yale Bulletin, March 7, 2003.

GenerationJ, Mosaica: Grey, It's the New Black, by Jodi Werner, August 2002.

GenerationJ, Interview, www.generationj.com, Jodi Werner, March 2002.

The Boston Phoenix, Christopher Millis. January 28, 2000.

The Boston Globe, Christine Temin. January 26, 2000.

The Sharon Advocate, October 15, 1999.

Art New England, Rich McKown. April 1999.

The Cambridge Tab, January 4, 1999.

AWARDS

2011 Sustainable Arts Foundation Award

2010 Massachusetts Cultural Council Painting Fellowship

2008 Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant

Masur Museum of Art, 35th Annual Juried Competition, Monroe, LA

2004 Visiting Artist, Hebrew College, "Art and Jewish Experience,"

Visiting Artist, Berkshire Institute for Music and the Arts (BIMA)

2003 Berkshire Institute for Music and the Arts (BIMA), Steering Committee and Board of Directors

1999 Cambridge Arts Council

Artist-In-Residence, M.L. King School, Cambridge

1996 The Trumbull Fine Arts Award

1995 The Bronfman Yotzma Fellowship

Visual-Arts Representative for Yale in the Arts

1992 National Art League, 1992