

## SHERIÉ FRANSSEN

**RESIDES** California

### EDUCATION

1999 Drawing and Painting, California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, California, B.F.A.

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 “Flesh Was the Reason”, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, California
- 2008 “Driving Into the Ocean”, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, California
- 2007 “Just An Inch of Ocean,” Huntington Beach Art Center, Huntington Beach, California  
“Sherié Franssen, Claustrophobia”, Jancar Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 2006 “Satisfaction Is Nothing,” Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, California
- 2004 “Subversive Acts,” The Office-An Art Space, Huntington Beach, California

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2008 “The Glittering Prize”, Outdoor installation collaboration with Mark Dutcher, Huntington Beach Art Center, HB, California, May/June
- 2006 “Carl Berg Gallery Group Show,” Carl Berg Gallery, Los Angeles, California  
“Impressionism,” Brea City Gallery, Brea, California
- 2005 “Fresh,” Silent Art Auction, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California  
“Venice Art Walk Auction,” Venice, California  
“Emerging Artist’s 2005,” Gallery C, Hermosa Beach, California  
“American Gothic – New Talent for the Dark Ages,” Gallery C, Hermosa Beach, California  
“The OsCene in Contemporary Art and Culture,” Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California  
“artLA The New LA Art Fair,” The Office-An Art Space, Huntington Beach, California
- 2004 “American Gothic – New Talent for the Dark Ages,” Gallery C, Hermosa Beach, California  
“The OsCene in Contemporary Art and Culture,” Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California  
“San Diego Art Institute International Exhibit,” San Diego Art Institute, San Diego, California  
“Muckenthaler Biennial Exhibition,” Muckenthaler Cultural Center, Fullerton, California  
“Woman Made Exhibit,” Long Beach Arts Gallery, Long Beach, California

# D O L B Y   C H A D W I C K   G A L L E R Y

- 2003 “San Diego Art Institute International Exhibit,” San Diego Art Institute  
“Projekt 30 Gallery Group Show,” Projekt30.com
- “Square Blue Gallery Group Show,” Square Blue Gallery, Costa Mesa, California
- 2002 “Muckenthaler Biennial Exhibition,” Muckenthaler Cultural Center Fullerton,  
California
- 1998 “Insights ’98,” University Art Museum, California State University Long Beach  
Group Show, Long Beach, California
- 1997 “Open Studio, New Paintings,” 7<sup>th</sup> Street Produce Market, Los Angeles, California  
“Long Beach Arts All Southern California Group Show,” Long Beach, California  
“Broken Jaw of Lost Kingdoms,” California State University Long Beach, Long  
Beach, California
- 1996 “The Gallery Downstairs Group Show,” The Gallery Downstairs, Pasadena,  
California
- 1995 “Group Show,” University Art Museum, California State University Long Beach  
Group Show, Long Beach, California

## LECTURES

- 2004 “Sex Behind the Curtain,” Panel Discussion, Laguna Art Museum, moderated by  
Tyler Stallings, Laguna Beach, California
- 1999-02 “Drawing and Painting the Figure,” Long Beach City College, Long Beach,  
California

## AWARDS

- 2004 “Woman Made Show,” Long Beach Arts Gallery, Long Beach, California
- 2003 “San Diego Art Institute International Show,” Museum of Contemporary Art San  
Diego, San Diego, California
- 1997 “Long Beach Arts All Southern California Group Show,” Long Beach Arts Gallery,  
Long Beach, California
- 1995 “Group Show,” University Art Museum, California State University Long Beach  
Group Show, Long Beach, California

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2009 Baker, Kenneth, “Top 5 Art Picks for 2008”, San Francisco Chronicle,  
January 3, 2009
- 2008 Baker, Kenneth, “Abstractions from Paintbrush and Camera”, San Francisco  
Chronicle, December 13, 2008
- 2007 “Big, Bold Paintings In Small Places”, Los Angeles Times, September  
14, 2007, Calendar, Around the Galleries, Page E31  
“Just An Inch of Ocean’ has depth”, The Orange County Register,

- March 12, 2007, Arts and Entertainment, Page 12  
“Art Imitates Strife”, Squeeze OC, March 15, 2007, Page 2  
“Springtime Trio”, Coast Magazine, April 1, 2007, Art Access, Page 179  
“Visceral Art That Pushes Out of the Comfort Zone” San Francisco Chronicle,  
November 4, 2006, Datebook, Page E10  
2005 New American Paintings Pacific Coast Edition, Volume 55  
2004 “American Gothic: Talent for the Dark Ages,” Easy Reader, December 16  
2004 “Orange County Artists Set the Scene in ‘Oscene’,” Laguna News Post, November,  
p. 22  
2004 “By and About Women,” San Bernardino County Sun, March  
2003 “New Faces,” San Diego Union Tribune, June  
2003 “International Language,” San Diego Metropolitan, May  
2003 Panorama Miast Polskich, May

## COLLECTIONS

Gavin Newsom and Jennifer Siebel-Newsom, San Francisco California  
Robert Hayden III, Laguna Beach, California  
Pat and Lisa Denzer, Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Susan Wunderlich, Laguna Hills, California  
Tom and Jean Jancar, Santa Ana, California  
Sarah and Craig Arnold, Long Beach California  
Robert Chaney, Texas  
Brian and Kathleen Gray, Newport Beach  
Linda Groves, Boston, Massachusetts  
Michele and Chris Hoff, Huntington Beach, California  
Matthew Hood, Palm Springs, California  
Shannon and Tommy Nakamura, Long Beach, California  
Scott and Camille Pantuso, Huntington Beach, California  
Tina Scoville, Newport Beach, California  
Shari and Brad Sinclair, San Clemente, California  
Tyler Stallings and Naida Osline, Huntington Beach, California  
Joseph and Joan Vanhooten, Long Beach, California  
Jeffrey Winter and Ann Bridges, Los Angeles, California  
Hank Wise, Seal Beach, California

## Statement

Sherie' Franssen

Flesh Was the Reason, November 4 – November 27, 2010

*Flesh Was The Reason*, an exhibition of new paintings by Sherie' Franssen, will open at Dolby Chadwick Gallery on November 4, 2010. The show's title is a nod to Willem de Kooning, who famously declared that oil paints were invented so that the artist might capture the voluptuousness of flesh, a venture heretofore unattained by less sensual media. As a potent symbol of life and its many contingencies (including love, sex and death), flesh is also the reason Franssen paints. For if painting is primarily concerned with evoking a visceral response within the viewer, as it is for Franssen, then flesh's carnal qualities help elicit that physical engagement.

Inspired by the film version of *Wuthering Heights*, Franssen's newest cycle of paintings approaches corporeality from the perspective of forbidden love gone bad. The dynamism of her gestures – manifested across the canvas as currents of energy that either expend quickly or detonate as small bursts – echo the film's gothic, windswept quality, while a rawness of form suggests the longing of thwarted love. An unorthodox interweaving of blacks, grays and plums with brighter greens, blues and rusts creates an effect paralleling the atmosphere of mystery that infuses Brontë's canonical tale. Franssen notes, however, that her paintings will often open themselves up to influences beyond her initial point of departure, thereby allowing them to absorb new meanings throughout the creative process.

In her earlier works, summarily rendered human figures are unmistakably evident against abstracted, though identifiable, natural and domestic settings. Although she still begins her paintings by laying down anatomical forms, these forms are now worked up to such a degree that the heavily layered final product embraces an advanced state of abstraction – one, however, that gently pulsates, as if alive, with an undercurrent of oblique representation. This move beyond a mere flirtation with abstraction is rooted in Franssen's desire to engage her limitations as a means of overcoming them. “[In order] to expand my painting language,” Franssen explains, “it has become necessary to do things I don't understand on the canvas and see where it leads.” Despite not knowing where her paintings will end up, there is always an underlying intent behind the unfolding of their formal elements.

Sherie' Franssen was born in 1952 in Torrance, California. In 1999, she earned her B.F.A. in Drawing and Painting from California State University at Long Beach. Throughout her artistic career, Franssen has consistently received positive critical attention from respected publications such as *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Art Ltd.*, and *New American Paintings*. Franssen's work will also be exhibited in our upcoming March 2011 group show “Heads,” co-curated by Peter Selz and Lisa Chadwick. This will be Franssen's third solo show at Dolby Chadwick Gallery.