



Abstraction Abounds in The Hamptons: Part I - Contemporary Abstract Exhibitions

October 11, 2014

by Pat Rogers

Fans of abstraction should rejoice this weekend-there's an unusual variety of exhibitions presenting works ranging from abstract expressionism to contemporary abstraction. No matter which side of the historical spectrum preferred, there's something to find at art galleries and museums from Quogue to Amagansett. If you're searching for contemporary abstraction, keep reading. A list of where to find Abstract Expressionism can be found in Part II by clicking [here](#).

Following is the complete list of where to find Contemporary Abstraction on view in the Hamptons:

“Proximity Game” by Brian O’Leary & Gus Yero at Sara Nightingale Gallery

Oct. 11 - Nov. 17.

Opening Reception - Oct. 11 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Sara Nightingale Gallery is located at 688 Montauk Highway, Water Mill, NY 11976. www.saranightingale.com.

“Proximity Game” plays with the notion of convergences’s influence when people, paint and artworks find themselves in the same place. Artists Gus Yero and Brian O’Leary both live in the Hamptons. Does the influence of geography seep into their work? Both are gallery artists for Sara Nightingale Gallery. Does this cross-influence subtly influence their art making choices while pushing boundaries? Does the liberal mixing of their paintings in the exhibition influence viewer’s interpretation of the art? Answers begin to form at the opening tonight.



“Tree 1” by Brian O’Leary. Oil on panel, 19 x 13 inches.



Detail of “Facing East” by Gus Yero. Acrylic on canvas, 48 x 48 inches.

“Augustus Nazzaro - In Pursuit of Shadows” and “Timothy Bergstrom - Moon Milk: Part I” at Halsey Mckay Gallery

Sept. 27 - Oct. 20

Halsey McKay Gallery is located at 79 Newtown Lane, East Hampton, NY 11937. www.halseymckay.com.

Augustus Nazzaro’s abstract paintings feel akin to noir-darkened streets glistening from street light beams that transport the ordinary into a story worth hearing. For his first solo show at Halsey McKay, Nazzaro presents a series of black and white paintings installed on the first floor of the gallery. The works are made by layering and sanding black acrylic over wood panel. The images have a grainy quality reminiscent of black and white photography, film stills, Xerox copies or microfiche, created as Nazzaro delves into the possibilities of painting. Whether the subject matter that’s coaxed to the surface can be identified or not is part of the intrigue.



“Savage Arms” by Augustus Nazzaro, 2014.
Acrylic on panel, 56 x 54 inches. Courtesy
halseymckay.com.

Upstairs, shades of white tinged with gray (and other colors) populate the exhibition “Moon Milk: Part I” by Timothy Bergstrom. Inspired by desire, longing and, perhaps, the moon’s pocked terrain and its symbolic ability to transform and man’s ability to make possible the near-impossible. The mixed media works are created from manipulated thread and paint with particles made up of screws, bottle caps, pastry tips, tape, tissue, sandpaper and brushes collaged into the works. According to the gallery, “These are the sacrificial offerings of a painterly practice to which the artist returns each night, the collateral of a painting process structured by continual longing for

something just outside of reach.”



“Moon Milk II” by Timothy Bergstrom, 2014.
Acrylic, methyl cellulose, wire, glitter, studio
detritus on canvas, 84 x 60.25 inches. Courtesy
halseymckay.com.

“Solo Show by Denise Gale” at ILLE Arts

Oct. 4 - Oct. 27, 2014

**ILLE Arts is located at 216a Main Street, Amagansett, NY 11930.
www.illearts.com.**

A bold painter, Denise Gale’s works are rift with aggressive color and bold brushstrokes that grab viewers and won’t let them leave until the art has been fully explore. This is the second solo show by Gale at ILLE Arts.



“Deception” by Denise Gale, 2014. 48 x 48 inches.

“Local Abstraction” at Peter Marcelle Project

Oct. 11 - Oct. 26, 2014

Reception: Oct. 11 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Peter Marcelle Project is located at 4 North Main Street, Southampton, NY 11968. www.petermarcelleproject.com.

The group exhibition grabs a wide swath of contemporary abstraction being made in the Hamptons plus a nod to some of its early practitioners. Expect to find works by Jackson Pollock, Alfonso Ossorio and Elaine de Kooning, establishing the Hamptons as abstraction’s long-time playground. Contemporary artists with works on view pull influences including Modernism, figuration, graphic design, Japanese aesthetics, Russian avant-garde, metaphysics and mathematics. The result is a near survey of the range contemporary abstraction is unfolding today.

Exhibiting artists include Jennifer Cross, Elaine de Kooning, Miriam Dougenis, Christopher Engel, Eric Ernst, Kimberly Goff, Tracy Harris, Giancarlo Impiglia, Jon Mulhem, Jacob Ouillette, Alfonso Ossorio, Amy Pilkington, Barbara Press, Jackson Pollock, Gavin Zeigler and Frank Wimberley.



“There is No Rebellion Against Physics,”
by Eric Ernst, 2007. Acrylic on wood, 33
inches high (base 12” x 13”)



“Red Shoes” by Frank Wimberley. Acrylic on canvas.



“Halsey Brown #8” by Jacob Ouillette, 2014. Oil on
canvas.

“Colin Goldberg: Techspressionism” at Glenn Horowitz Bookseller

Oct. 11 - Nov. 2, 2014

Reception: Oct. 11 from 6 to 8 p.m.

**Glenn Horowitz Bookseller is located at 87 Newtown Lane, East
Hampton, NY 11937. www.glennhorowitz.com.**

Colin Goldberg’s abstract art fuses the philosophies and practices of AB-EX with today’s technology. His unabashed use of computer technology to create unique artworks predates the rise of digital art. With years of art making under his belt, Goldberg’s work has achieved a maturity and an ease of combining paintbrush with pixilation. The Glenn Horowitz Bookseller solo exhibition follows on the heels of a solo show on the North Fork earlier this year. Goldberg’s star is rising.



“New Plastic Shodo #5” by Colin Goldberg,

2013. Sumi ink, acrylic and pigment print
on Kinwashi paper, 12.25 x 18.75 inches.
Shodo series.

Group Show of Gallery Artists at Birnam Wood / Gallery

Open Weekends

Birnam Wood / Gallery is located at 48 Park Place, East Hampton, NY 11937. www.birnamwoodart.com.

Birnam Wood / Galleries is exhibition selections from its gallery artists in its East Hampton location for the fall season. Included in the mix are abstract painters Margaret Garrett and Michael Rich. Garrett's work combines delicacy of material with a saturation of brushstrokes, color and energy. Rich's work makes use of broad brushstrokes that often seem to caress the canvas, punctuated by with abrupt lines and angles, to create an abstract landscape one could easily linger.



"Tuning Fields 246" by Margaret Garrett, 2011. Acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches.



"Restoration" by Michael Rich, 2012. Oil and wax on canvas, 50 x 54 inches.

Group Show at Kathryn Markel Fine Arts

Open Weekends

Kathryn Markel Fine Arts is located at 2418 Montauk Hwy, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. www.markelfinearts.com.

Currently on view is a sampling of works by gallery artists. The art is typically lyrical and inspired by nature, cityscape or something observable that inspires the artist to pick up their brush or create

sculpture. It is often abstract. Two ends of the spectrum can be found in works by Meredith Pardue and Christian Haub. Both had solo shows at the Bridgehampton gallery earlier this season.

Haub's color constructions are hard-edged, geometric and marry natural light's impact with the paint's pigment to create color layers that appear to float. Pardue's paintings make use of organic forms set upon a monochromatic built-up surface where the random and purposeful combine. Her abstract works explore the relationship between the two and plumbing physiological space to create a single moment in time pulled from an ever-changing world transformed into a singular and private experience for the viewer.



"Float for Les Collettes" by Christian Haub, 2014. Cast acrylic, 36 x 36 x 3 1/2 inches.



"Aqua Stella" by Meredith Pardue, 2014. Ink, oil, and graphite on canvas, 48 x 48 inches.

Addition Exhibitions

Other places to find contemporary abstraction include "**Varieties of Visual Expression**" at [Southampton Cultural Center](#) (Opening Reception on Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m.); [Eric Firestone Gallery](#) (group show of gallery artists) and [Chase Edwards Gallery](#) (a new group show).

Looking for abstract expressionism artworks in the Hamptons? Click on "[Abstraction Abounds in The Hamptons Part II: Abstraction Expressionism](#)".