

Neeta Madahar : SUSTENANCE

Online exhibition at Jane Deering Gallery on ARTsy.net

January 9 - February 9 . 2016

Artist Neeta Madahar (Indian descent; born UK, 1966) explores the beauty and unexpected drama found in familiar surroundings, representing the physical world in unusual ways enabling the viewer to immerse themselves in the acute details. *Sustenance* -- the artist's first body of work -- functions within the inter-relationship of nature, artifice and perception. Recipient of the Bradford Fellowship in Photography 2008-09, Madahar has exhibited extensively, including a solo exhibition of the *Sustenance* series (selected by Martin Parr) at the Recontres d'Arles Photography Festival in 2004. Collections include the UK Government Art Collection, The Victoria & Albert Museum, Harvard University Art Museums, Kemper Art Museum, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, MIT Art Collection.

---

Paul Cary Goldberg : Sense of Placement | Sense of Place

April 12 - May 15 . 2015

---

A primary hue takes on myriad nuances in Gloucester

*Blue arrived, and its time was painted* at Jane Deering Gallery

By Cate McQuaid | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT AUGUST 19, 2014

Adin Murray's "Rayleigh Scattering," on exhibit at the Jane Deering Gallery.

GLOUCESTER – Stand in the kitchen of the Jane Deering Gallery, in Deering's home in the Annisquam neighborhood here, and gaze out toward the shed in the backyard. Blue fills the frame of the shed's doorway – a deep, breathless sky blue that couldn't possibly be contained within the confines of such a small structure.

Adin Murray's 6-foot-square painting "Rayleigh Scattering," hangs solo inside. It's part of a refreshing group show, "Blue arrived, and its time was painted," the rest of which is in Deering's house (open by appointment).

Murray has painted a luminous sky dwarfing a sun-dried Australian landscape. That thin bottom fringe of auburn grass and trees effectively anchors the cerulean expanse because Murray has rendered it with near photo-realist care. Pearlescent clouds limed with violet and orange-gold throw an aura upward, which the sky swallows, and then grows bluer. The show takes its name from "Azul," a poem by Spaniard Rafael Alberti, and snippets of verse have been mounted on the wall throughout. The text in the shed mentions "ecstatic blue." That's the color of Murray's sky. Murray is a Cape Ann artist, and "Blue" mixes local with national and international talent. Chris Baker, of Maine and California, reimagines the Baroque masterpiece "Las Meninas" in his painting "Study After Velázquez." A cobalt glow lights up Velázquez's shadowy recesses in the room where he depicted himself painting a young princess and her servants. Using a thin film of plastic as a kind of stencil, Baker delineates figures and paints within their contours, each a balance of sharp lines and tart, runny smudges. It's disarmingly strange – garish, ghostly, and affectionate. Most of the work here, while smart, is not as unnerving. Tom Fels made his

cyanotype "Arbor 6.16," by climbing up into a tree and holding up a 3-foot-tall piece of photographic paper, exposing it to the sun and the shadows of rustling leaves. The results evoke the touch and movement of a friendly breeze.

There's plenty more. Esther Pullman's photographs of architectural details create spaciousness, even in small settings, with angles and turns that make the eye pivot. Tess Jaray's untitled abstract silkscreen of increasingly blue bars describing an inverted pyramid has a basic, flat form, but color you could fall into. All told, the show's effect is clarifying and direct, like a cool dip on a sunny day.

'Blue arrived, and its time was painted'

August 1 - September 1 . 2014

Jane Deering Gallery

Gloucester MA

viewing by appointment

978-281-8051

<http://www.bostonglobe.com/arts/theater-art/2014/08/19/primary-hue-takes-mriad-nuances-gloucester/6ne6JxvOzR9T9VPEbWYutM/story.html>

---

ART REVIEW: A Bigger Picture, a Classic Declassified - CHRIS BAKER'S EPIC PAINTING, 'PACIFIC,' TAKES REMBRANDT'S CLASSIC 'THE NIGHT WATCH' AS A DIRECT SOURCE OF INSPIRATION

By Josef Woodard, News-Press Correspondent

March 14, 2014 11:54 AM

ART REVIEW

Chris Baker | *Pacific*

Despite the presence of studies, back-stories and supportive energies, the current fare in the Jane Deering Gallery basically qualifies as a one-painting wonder. Even casually walking by the gallery space, Chris Baker's *Pacific* screams out to the senses, in a side-of-a-wall, mini-mural kind of way, its whopping 106-inch-by-132-inch dimensions all but lording it over one long gallery wall, and engulfing our sightlines.

file:///localhost/Users/janevdeering/Documents/JDGallery%20.%20SB%202014/March%202014%20.%20Chris%20Baker/Chris%20Baker%20.%20'Pacific'%202014%20.%20Oil%20on%20canvas%20.%20106x132%20inches.jpgChris Baker . *Pacific* 2014 . Oil on canvas . 106 x 132 inches

And yet, if this seemingly casual gathering of figures in an identifiably iconic Southern California setting initially settles easy on the mind -- giving double meaning to the word 'Pacific,' as ocean and peaceful feeling -- the conceptual plot thickens and taps into something deeper and art-historically entrenched. *Pacific* takes, as its primary inspiration and model, Rembrandt's classic and epic 1642 painting *The Night Watch*, aka its original title, '*The Company of captain Frans Banning Cocq and lieutenant Willem van Ruytenburch preparing to march out.*'

file:///localhost/Users/janevdeering/Documents/JDGallery%20.%20SB%202014/March%202014%20.%20Chris%20Baker/Images%20of%20works%20in%20exhibition%20/re-2/Chris%20Baker%20.%20The%20Night%20Watch%20Abstracted%20.%202014%20.%20Oil%20on%20canvas%20.%2048x72%20inches.pngChris Baker . *Night Watch, Abstracted* 2014 . Oil on canvas . 487 x 72 inches

Mr. Baker, who has studios in Carpinteria and Sedgwick, Maine, has maneuvered a post-Modernist flip here, unabashedly channeling and structurally mimicking Rembrandt, while lending a refreshing new twist in the realm of figurative art-making. He switches out the moody and dim-lit nocturnal setting of the original with bright, unrelenting California mid-day, and exchanges the 17th military aggregation for a motley crew of casual-dress Californians, slacker, possible scholars, and a jazz trio appreciated by a baying dog.

But clearly, the formal and organizational connection of the two paintings conspires toward an artistic, odd coupling across centuries, painting idioms and geo-cultural coordinates. As the artist explains in a statement, 'This is not a utopian order, nor is it a natural order. Rather, it is an alternative order -- one that is large, wide, in color, imperfect.'

Across the room from the 'big picture,' hangs his piece, *The Night Watch, Abstracted*, service as a kind of point of reference and/or departure from the more than twice-as-large painting across the way. Elements of the original have been scrubbed, scraped, blurred and blackened, as is windswept by the gusts or art historicist memory and contemplation. With *Pacific*, the vast scale belies its ambivalent, easy-does-it, leisure-soaked imagery. We instantly recognize the archetypal stuff of the SoCal lifestyle, from the swim-suited fashion, shorts (with camouflage pattern, mixed with the colors of the Ethiopian flag -- how SoCal is that?), and the odd presence of an older man positioned in an arch, pontificating pose, a direct lift of the central figure in the Rembrandt. He is the surrogate 21st century, Californian stand-in for captain Frans Banning Cocq.

These disparate characters are curiously collected here, in a mannered, frozenly theatrical way in this stage, set-like space. They could have been enlisted from a mega-mall or fresh off the strand in Venice, California, in the lazy, sunlight-kissed atmosphere with mild mountains in the background, a geometric, modernist beach house and the classic eucalyptus tree -- seemingly indigenous to California, but actually a non-native, like so many things on this far coast.

In the dramatic arts, in theater, opera and film, the process of updating and re-contextualizing old standards of the repertoires is an accepted part of the creative process. Updating and modernizing Shakespeare or Verdi, say, is a gesture toward making great art universal and of-the-now, as well as a potentially controversial prospect. In the fine arts, the long arm and ominous echoes of art history feed into what comes next in ways that can be more poetic or twice-removed, or also sometimes realized by moving in an opposite direction.

Mr. Baker's notion is, at once, bracingly direct, and sneakily complicated. With *Pacific*, somehow, the careful blend of transformation, adaptation and allegiance becomes a subplot in the fascination of the painting -- and the project itself. The painting, this one looming tableau of a painting, is the thing, yes. But it's also just the starting point.

file:///localhost/Users/janevdeering/Documents/JDGallery%20.%20SB%202014/March%202014%20.%20Chris%20Baker/Images%20of%20works%20in%20exhibition%20/February%2026%20.%208%20images/Chris%20Baker%20.%20Pacific%20Study%201.5%20%202014%20.%20%20Watercolor%20on%20paper.%206x9%20inches%20(11.jpg).jpgART

REVIEW

*Pacific Study 1.5 2014*

Watercolor on paper . 6"x9"

---

Chris Baker | *Pacific*

When: through March 29 . 2014

Where: Jane Deering Gallery . 128 E. Canon Perdido Street

Hours: 11am to 5pm Tuesday-Saturday . Information: [janedeeringgallery.com](http://janedeeringgallery.com)  
. 805-966-3334

---

The Land Has Many Parts

January 15 - February 15 . 2014

@ JDGallery Santa Barbara CA

This exhibition was initially inspired by British artist Nigel Peake, whose book, *In the Wilds*, is a charming collection of drawings and close observations of his daily life in the country -- the surrounds of 'shelter, mountain, ground and lake.' Peake has an abiding love for the land, including the functions and structures land supports, and writes '*the land has many small parts.*'

The idea for the exhibition then broadened as further sources came to light, connecting landscape to power, memory, modernity, cultural and climatic shifts, demonstrating the notion of land as complex and multi-layered.

Taking a cue from all of these sources, I asked each of the artists in this exhibition to communicate their notion of land through an inventory of their own observations, real or imagined. What does the contemporary artist see in the landscape? Their interpretations articulate new visions, new connections and speak as much to the illusory, the nostalgic, the fantastic as to the real and the ruined, raising questions about how we interact with the land and what consequences this might have for the environment and, ultimately, the landscape.

The Artists:

Amanda Burnham (Baltimore MD)  
Kerry Gorton Evans (Boston MA)  
Jacob Hessler (Camden ME)  
Ryan Hoover (Baltimore MD)  
Julian Kreimer (Brooklyn NY)  
Magnolia Laurie (Baltimore MD)  
Rosemary Liss (Baltimore MD)  
Adin Murray (Gloucester MA)  
Susan McNally (North Kingston RI)  
Michael Porter (Newlyn UK)  
Kim Parr Roenigk (Baltimore-Washington DC)  
Christina Seely (San Francisco CA)  
Sommer Sheffield (Santa Barbara CA)  
Ro Snell (Santa Barbara CA)  
Emily Speed (Liverpool UK)  
Joan Tanner (Santa Barbara CA)  
Hazel Walker (County Clare, Ireland)

---

Drawing on Traces, and Winking Darkly : UNORTHODOX BLEND: DANE GOODMAN AND KEITH PUCCINELLI COLLABORATE ON 'TRACE PRINTS'

By Josef Woodard, News-Press Correspondent

March 22, 2013 11:19 AM

In the time-honored solitary and single-minded nature of art, especially in two-dimensional art, genuine collaboration is a rare thing. No doubt, that very collaborative factor is the unique charm of the exhibition now up at the Jane Deering Gallery, which goes by the truth-telling moniker DANE GOODMAN + KEITH PUCCINELLI | The Trace Prints Project.

As it turns out, the join creative effort isn't as strange as it might seem. Yes, it's true, these two distinctive and disparate -- though kindred-spirited -- Santa Barbara-based artists jointly worked on non-linear narrative coated with fever dream logic. We 'get' that these two respect each other's sensibility and know their points of crossover. That was not obvious in the retired-Atkinson-Gallery-director Mr. Goodman's curatorial imprint on Mr. Puccinelli's memorable 2011 cerebral circus at the Atkinson, a fantastic show dubbed 'sweet cream sour fool.' Both artists like a good, dark and cryptic joke, and find intriguing ways of drawing lines of connection between their own private sense of style and art history traditions, from grand Guignol to surrealism to post-Modernist malarkey-ism. They seem to be likely and like-minded collaborators and co-conspirators.

Even so, it slightly startles the art-appreciative mind to try and parse the roles of each involved in these curious drawings, using the humble but effective, one-off technique of 'trace drawing' in reverse.

Some pieces become parts of a series, or of negative imagery fragmented and reiterated, with rippling echoes and iconography of images seen elsewhere. As a sum effect, the dense thicket of image on the gallery walls draws us into its slippery storylines and cross-references, its private and strange dark comical world.

Certain signature elements circulate amongst the drawings -- Mr. Goodman's snowmen and pumpkin heads, Mr. Puccinelli's iconic and historic sad clowns, for instance -- but often, it's hard to distinguish who did what, or where the call-and-response responsibility lays. Therein lay the artistically dialoguing charm of this unorthodox project.

Perils and dry pratfall comedy abound. And while mostly they live in the realms of fantasy, childhood memories revised, and folk art-like freedom of expression (and free association of expression), the nasty real world sneaks into the picture at times. For instance, can we ever view images of the World Trade Center with anything but tragic remorse and dread about the state of the world? Recurring images of a falling bomb, and just the crudely-scrawled, loaded work 'Afghanistan' inserts a dose of reality in the otherwise alternative/underground cartoony vibe of the room.

If the 'centerpiece' in this weirdly wonderful show is lavished on the walls, begging to be 'read' from left to right in some deceptively

narrative fashion, the sculptural pieces on the gallery floor occupy their own sense of space. Here in a cluster of serio-comic sculptures, the individual artists cling to individual responsibility for what's before us.

Pursuant to Mr. Goodman's by-now familiar -- and vaguely creepy -- cast of characters, we find lovably grotesque heads and a pumpkin-headed boxer on tall sticks, as well as a mushy, melt-y ceramic piece, 'World's Largest Two-Faced Snowman.'

Mr. Puccinelli tends to steer his post-Oldenburgh-ish ideas around reformulation of form, content and materials, whether in the cereal-smattered 'Bowl of Grapenuts' or the visual and materialistic punning, wooden-cigarette facsimiles 'Twig Cigs.' He also shows defanged weaponry, guns made from organic, non-lethal materials, and a funny footnote of a piece, 'Suspicious Package,' slyly placed on the floor and empowered by its nearly unnoticed presence.

In the end, the notion of suspicious packaging may be the best way to describe the strange wonder that these artists have wrought there, alone and together. They have taken on a unique project in which the normally private passions and obsessions of the individual artist have merged with another creative head, and a certain enlightened, collective headlessness is the upshot.

#### ART REVIEW

---

Puccinelli and Goodman

In The Trace Prints Project, Keith Puccinelli and Dane Goodman Draw Together

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

by CHARLES DONELAN

A COUPLE OF NOBODIES: In their new show at Jane Deering Gallery, well-known and prolific Santa Barbara artists Dane Goodman and Keith Puccinelli converge over a dizzying process known as trace printing. A piece of drawing paper is placed onto an inked linoleum block, and the artist then draws on the dry reverse surface of the paper with some kind of stylus. When the first proof is peeled away, a simple print is created, showing a mirror image of whatever has been drawn on the reverse side. In subsequent proofs, the original image comes up as a negative from where the ink has been taken away. At each go, the paper picks up more static and atmosphere from dust, air bubbles, and distortion. The trace printing technique was used to great effect by Marie Schoeff in her January 2012 show *Traces*, also at Deering, but in this instance, with two artists involved, the drama inherent in the sequencing and multiplicity of the images takes on an added dimension of dialogue.

In their new collaboration, Keith Puccinelli and Dane Goodman operate through cartoon alter egos, a clown and a snowman, respectively. And what a dialogue it is. It's an existential circus in these 110 prints, populated by Puccinelli's now familiar clowns and Goodman's surrogate, the snowman, along with a broad cast of goofy nobodies, including a guy pushing a lawn mower, a peanut head smoking a pipe, a snake, a buffalo, and one cracked-out crocodile, as well as Abe Lincoln. As the most important recurring figures, snowman and clown go through all kinds of trials and

tribulations. In one plate, the melting head of snowman dangles precipitously over a candle while clown, likewise decapitated and dangling, does his best to blow it out. Apparently, clown has snowman's back, at least on this one. At other times, as when smiling snowman surfs the prone dead body of clown, the message is more ambivalent. As in the previous work of both artists, not far beneath a playful surface lies a darkly mystical engagement with threshold states – not only the limits of consciousness and the limits of recognition but also the limits of life. The charming small catalog created to accompany the show, which includes a great essay by David Pagel, is called "eating fresh peaches and tomatoes talking about death drawing together," which I take to be an entirely str