



# The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

*Contemporary Drawings and Works on Paper*

Bryan Ryley

Drawer's Selection

February 4, - March 11, 2006



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Inaugural Drawer's Selection  
February 4, 2006 - March 11, 2006

Artist Catalog, 'Bryan Ryley - Headbones Gallery, The Drawers '  
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Telephone/Facsimile: 416-465-7352 Email: [info@headbonesgallery.com](mailto:info@headbonesgallery.com)  
Director: Richard Fogarty  
[www.headbonesgallery.com](http://www.headbonesgallery.com)

# Bryan Ryley

## Drawer's Selection

To leave the mark of individuality, a sense of the intellect and spirit, is to wax poetic. Abstraction reveals what it left behind, a track of energy. Abstraction indicates the state of mind that the artist inhabited while he assumed the creative responsibility. Bryan Ryley leaves indicators and passes over the flame of insight to the viewer with a practiced hand.

Ryley has never tied down the field of possibilities with inconsequential dribble. Throughout series past, he has held a strict abstract agenda, giving us paint, pencil, paper, canvas a "medium is the message" type of artist. He would allow himself the indiscretion of a collaged element now and again as in one series when he included the paint labels from the cans in the artworks. There have also been repetitive shapes and formats to orient from; The Four Seasons, for instance, where broad color fields with circles of relative size presented an associative palette in large formats, like modern picture windows letting through a vision of nature.

Starting with a digital printed image from a photograph of saddhus, Bryan Ryley works through a number of 'medium moves' that vacillate between obfuscation and clarification. He lays a milky substance over the surface that places a blur on the image of the holy men so that it becomes difficult to focus on their physical existence and replaces that frozen moment with a melt down.

He exerts his written hand and brings civilized thoughts from seemingly disconnected sources but once the connections are made, the information is vast. T.S. Elliot, e.e.cummings, and Ferlingetti were all poets. Ferlingetti (from Yonkers and Bryan Ryley did his Masters at Pratt) began the Beat Movement and eventually opened the City Lights Book Store in San Francisco. The often playful, usually more dissident, verse of e.e. cummings (who was also, although not acclaimed as such, a painter) with his lack of punctuation and capitals developed the model of abstract poetry. T.S. Elliot's existential philosophy was the engine that drove abstract expressionism. Ryley gives us a plus and a minus sign, loaded with pushes and pulls, and visually, immediately recognizable.

Brian's work gives us an overview of the intangible. He encourages reflection.



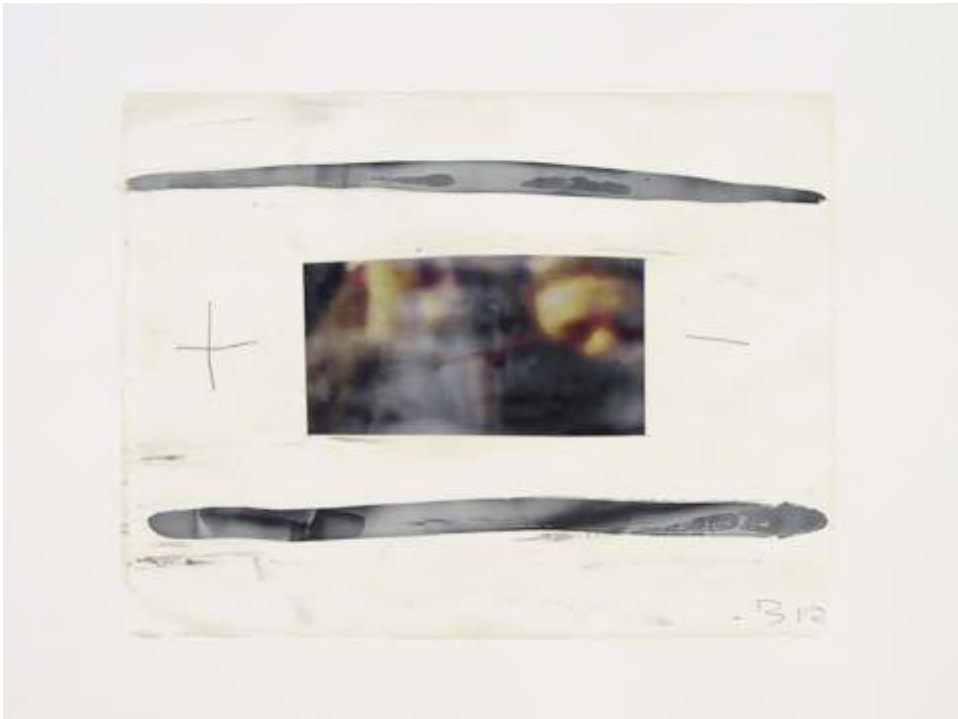
Silence Silence Cuning Ferlinghetti  
digital print, mixed media, pencil  
paper 22x 30in, image 11.5x15in  
2003



Competing With El Greco, e.e. cummings  
digital print, mixed media, pencil  
paper 22x 30in, image 11.5x15in  
2003



*Dissonance Has Its Place, T.S. Eliot*  
digital print, mixed media, pencil  
paper 22x 30in, image 11.5x15in  
2003



*Plus Minus*  
digital print, mixed media, pencil  
paper 22x 30in, image 11.5x15in  
2003





Can't See  
digital print, mixed media, pencil  
paper 22x 30in, image 11.5x15in  
2003



*Excuse Me Mister*  
digital print, mixed media, pencil  
paper 22x 30in, image 11.5x15in  
2003



You We  
digital print, mixed media, pencil  
paper 22x 30in, image 11.5x15in  
2003



*There is No Horizon Never*  
digital print, mixed media, pencil  
paper 22x 30in, image 11.5x15in  
2003

## Bryan James Ryley

### BORN:

1952 Lives & works in Vernon, British Columbia

### EDUCATION:

1977 MFA (Honours), Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York

1974 BFA (Honours), university of Victoria, Victoria British Columbia

### RELATED EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE:

1976-77 Graduate seminar Leader, Contemporary Issues in American Art,  
Whitney Museum of Contemporary Art, New York

1979-80 Emma Lake Artists Workshops, University of Saskatchewan, Emma Lake,  
Saskatchewan

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

2000 "New Work", Paul Kuhn Gallery, Calgary, Alberta

1996 "Bury the Abstract Expressionists", Paul Kuhn Gallery, Calgary, AB

Vernon Public Art Gallery, Silver Star Mountain, Vernon, BC

"Raven Drawings 'for Sylvia' ", Montgomery Fine Arts, Vancouver, BC

"Weather & tools", Headbones Gallery, Vernon, British Columbia

1995 "Recent Paintings & Drawings", Paul Kuhn Gallery, Calgary, AB

1993 "Recent Paintings. Xerox British Columbia Open", Predator Ridge

Golf Resort, Vernon, British Columbia

1992 Kelowna Public Art Gallery, Kelowna, British Columbia

"Legacy - Public Sculpture" Vernon, British Columbia

"Creator of Awards", British Columbia Festival of Arts, Vernon, BC

1991 "Recent Sculpture and Drawings", Szombathy/Charlton, Vernon, BC

1990 "Recent Paintings & Drawings", Kanoui Forbes Gallery, New York

1989 "Stock Exchange", Lakewood Art Gallery, Vernon, BC

1988 "New Paintings", Grand Forks Public Art Gallery, Grand Forks, BC

1987 "Recent paintings & Drawings", Paul Kuhn Gallery, Calgary, AB

1986 "Recent paintings & Drawings", Paul Kuhn Gallery, Calgary, AB

"Terrain", Kelowna Public Art Gallery, Kelowna, British Columbia

1985 "Recent paintings & Drawings", Paul Kuhn Gallery, Calgary, AB

- 1984 "Recent paintings & Drawings", Paul Kuhn Gallery, Calgary, AB
- "Dog Town Common", Vernon Public Art gallery, Vernon, BC
- 1982 "Paintings & Drawings", Heffel Fine Art Inc., Vancouver, BC
- 1981 "Paintings & Drawings", Heffel Fine Art Inc., Vancouver, BC
- 1979 "Emma Lake Paintings", Kelowna Public art Gallery, Kelowna, BC
- 1978 "Field and Trajectories", Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York
- 1977 "Shifting Fields", Canadian Consulate Gallery, New York

#### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

- 1997 "Works on Paper", Paul Kuhn Gallery, Calgary, Alberta
- "Visuals from Audibles", Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC
- 1996 "Approaching Abstraction", Art Gallery of South Okanagan, Penticton, BC
- "Stepping Stones: Inaugural Exhibition", Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna, BC
- 1995 "Small Matters", Vernon Public Art Gallery, Vernon, British Columbia
- "Defining Feminism", Headbones Gallery, Vernon, British Columbia
- 1994 "Alumni International", Manhattan Gallery, Pratt Institute, New York
- Shafter Gallery, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York
- 1993 "Ryley and Alcock: Recent Sculpture", Szombathy/Charlton, Vernon, BC
- "Drawings", Paul Kuhn Gallery, Calgary, Alberta
- 1992 "New Acquisitions", Petro Canada Gallery, Calgary, Alberta
- 1990 "Diversity", Vernon Public Art gallery, Vernon, British Columbia
- " Ryley and Suarez: Cartoons & Boxes", Art Gallery of the South Okanagan, Penticton, British Columbia
- 1989 "Works on Paper", Edmonton Art gallery, Edmonton, Alberta
- 1982 "New Additions", Judith Sekowitz Fine Art, New York
- 1981 "Emma Lake Artist", Edmonton Art Gallery (Travelling), Edmonton, AB
- 1980 "Young Talent", Russell Sage Gallery, Troy, New York
- 1977 "5th International New York Invitational/Canadian Representative", United Nations, United Nations Plaza, New York
- 1977 "Ford Foundation Recipient Exhibition", Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

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