



# The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

*Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper*

## **Ed Giordano Jr.**

Bona fide

May 17 - June 28, 2007



Commentary by Julie Oakes

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Artist Catalog, 'Ed Giordano Jr. - Headbones Gallery, The Drawers '  
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Rich Fog Micro Publishing, printed in Toronto, 2007  
Layout and Design, Rich Fog Micro Publishing

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## **Ed Giordano Jr.**

*Julie Oakes*

“What is Man?” This was the perpetual question that drove forward the figurative tradition as artists depicted man in relation to God, the church, nature and society. Often aggrandizing and lending the question an inherently positive examination; the interpretation, discipline, situation and material has changed but the subject matter never ceases to boggle. It is Nietzsche’s query - “Why are we here and why do we do what we do?” It extrapolated into “And how have we become what we have become?”

Ed Giordano's prognosis is bleak. His typical man seems unable to move off of his solitary and compromised perch. He is imprisoned in words, covered by statistics, pinioned by the message of modernity rather than set free by the fictionalization of his possibilities. There is no room to soar upwards and pursue the divine quest of finding himself. The Overman is someone else. This sad and stymied 'ordinary guy' is not going anywhere. This is the pith of the sorry matter and with true psychological Zeitgeist and flare, the piece transcends its intrinsic commonality through the monumental truth of angst. By confronting the locked position of this vision of man, the opposite is invoked freedom and all of it's liberating facets.

The diminutive size and rough rendering of the figure allows us to wrap our head around the grand philosophical mysteries without having to be overwhelmed by the impossibility of understanding. The more likely fault - missing the mark - loses the stigmata of ignorance. The potential for expressing the human condition has been realized in these unassuming figures. They pose no threat upon our need to stay at least somewhat comfortable within our sentience. In fact, they grant a reverse dignity to our common plight by vesting humility with a presence, a powerful sculptural identity.

Ed Giordano's sculpture opens a door to compassion. It is void of arrogance and admits no challenge. It exists with a stubborn right to be blindly depressed. We feel sorry that it had gone this far, that the straight jacket has fused like a second skin, that we have not taken better care and been more attentive to this diminishing stature. They win us over with a blind sided sense of mutuality and identification.



Untitled - 11 x 12 x 17 inches - plaster, wood & coupons - 2006



Untitled - 10 x 13 x 19 inches - plaster, wood, string & coupons - 2006



Untitled - 7 x 7 x 13 inches - plaster, wood & coupons - 2006



Untitled - 7 x 7 x 36 inches - plaster, wood & coupons - 2006





detail



Untitled - 4 x 5 x 8 inches - plaster, wood & coupons - 2006



Untitled - 3 x 5 x 10 inches - clay, paint - 2006



Untitled - 3 x 5.5 x 8 inches - clay, paint - 2006



Untitled - 3 x 3.5 x 8 inches - clay, paint - 2006



Untitled - 2.5 x 3.5 x 8 inches - clay, paint - 2006



Untitled - 5 x 4.5 x 12 inches - clay, paint - 2005



Untitled - 5.5 x 7 x 8 inches - clay, paint, gauze - 2006





Untitled - 4 x 6 x 10 inches - clay, paint, gauze - 2006



Untitled - 6 x 6 x 10 inches - plaster, paint - 2006



Untitled - 5 x 7 x 11 inches - plaster, paint - 2006



Untitled - 3 x 5 x 4.5 inches - plaster, paint - 2006



Father Domine - 7.5 x 12 x 18 inches - plaster, wood, paint - 1998

# Ed Giordano Jr.

## Education

- 1985 M.S. Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York. Master of Science in Communication Design. Thesis Title: The Significance of Assemblage on 20th Century Design.
- 1975 Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island. Bachelor of Fine Arts with a major in sculpture.

## Grants & Awards

- 2003 Violette de Mazia Trust at The Barnes Foundation: Advanced Critical Studies in the Fine Arts.
- 2002 The Pollack-Krasner Foundation.
- 2001 Violette de Mazia Trust at The Barnes Foundation: Advanced Theoretical Studies in the Fine Arts.
- 1997 The Pollack-Krasner Foundation.
- 1995 The Joan Mitchell Foundation.  
Sculpture Space, Inc. Utica, New York.
- 1994 Delfina Studio Trust, London, England.  
Sculpture Space, Inc. Utica, New York.
- 1992 The Marie Walsh Sharpe Foundation, New York.
- 1988 Hohenberg Family Foundation Traveling Fellowship; Italy
- 1987 Robert Lehman Foundation.

## Exhibitions

- 2006 Inaugural Drawers' Selection, Headbones Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2006 New York Public Library, Aguliar Gallery, New York, NY, Solo Show
- 2005 Ocean County College, Fine Arts Center Gallery - Toms River, New Jersey, Solo Show
- 2002 Ace Gallery-Sharpe Foundation Tenth Year Group Show.  
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Group Show.

- 2001 New York Studio School Gallery, Group Show.  
Sculpture Space, New York City Auction.
- 1999 d'Art Mag. LL Gallery: curated by Leeza Ahmady & R. Curcio
- 1998 "Humanoid": Genovese/Sullivan Gallery, Boston, Mass.
- 1997 Persona: 450 Gallery, New York, N.Y. Group Show.
- 1996 New York Studio School Gallery, New York. Group Show.  
"Closed and Open Form" curated by Michael Brenson.
- 1995 The Police Building - "Behind the Eight Ball" Group show curated by Susan Mastrangelo.
- 1993 Bernard Toale Gallery, Boston, Mass. Group Show.  
New York Studio School Gallery, New York. Group show curated by Judy Rifka.  
The Marie Walsh Sharpe Foundation, New York.
- 1992 White Columns, New York. Group Show.
- 1991 Drexel University sponsored artist's studio exhibition,
- 1988 New York Studio School Gallery, New York. Group Show.
- 1983 Tweed Gallery, Plainfield, New Jersey. Group Show.
- 1982 Rowan State College (formerly Glassboro State College) Glassboro, New Jersey.

## **Collections**

Ardente Collection, Providence, Rhode Island  
Dr. Andrew Messina Collection, Albany, New York  
Jose Pincay Delgado Collection, New York, N.Y.  
Ivy Club, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey  
Alien Scheuch Collection, New York, N.Y.  
Scheuch Collection, Hartford, Connecticut  
Oliver Wyman & Company, New York, N.Y.  
Reeve Collection, Stamford, Connecticut.  
Alexander Savitsky, Magnitogorsk City, Russia.  
Hasko De Jong Collection, Asterdam, The Netherlands.

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Toronto Canada