



The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper

Goro Kadoi

Ethnic Convergence

February 22 - April 3, 2007



Commentary by Julie Oakes

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Telephone/Facsimile: 416-465-7352 Email: info@headbonesgallery.com
Director: Richard Fogarty
www.headbonesgallery.com

Goro Kadoi

Julie Oakes

With direct simplicity that relies on the recognition of an enigmatic image, Goro Kadoi captures attention. He is a Pop Japanese presence. With a dual discipline of music (he had a band and performed in NYC) and visual art, he takes advantage of his 'other-ness' with a piquant rendition of the hip-ness of modern Japan. He has invented a character, a unisex, simple being in a blue robe. There is just enough oddness in the makeup of his line drawn robed being to arouse curiosity as to the origin. Many possibilities come to mind - characters of Japanese comics, small and inexpensive toys, logos, graffiti and then there are the ancient associations - Shinto shrines, votive figures, coarse woodblock characters, or kabuki theater. The flat application of paint seems to veer towards a manufactured or screen printed look and yet the tremulous shading and line, with the odd mistake covered by impasto white in the background belies a slick reading. This brings the perception back to simplicity, not for the sake of dampening the human touch, but as a means to cutting through to the quick of iconography.

The woven black lines in some of the backgrounds have Japanese textile associations. The small white shape at the bottom of the figure, seen through what might be an opening in a blue robe, looks like a white bound foot contained within a clean black line. The white face resembles the powdered visage of a geisha. Dots or short dashes form the oriental eyes. The character, a combination of shapes, forms a figure much as the combined brush strokes of a Japanese character form the word. There are vestiges of pencil for the placement of the ink lines and sometimes there is a discrepancy as if in the application of the brush stroke a more precise rendition of the character was discovered. There is a unique individuality to each character despite the sameness and 'smurf'-like cartoon handling.

Deconstructing the Kadoi figures really leaves no clue as to their identity or origin. The exercise, instead, illustrates the fact that some images override their origins or associations and enter our pantheon of visual icons with a prescience that is unavoidably secure, like the birth of a new visual species.



Prince From The Sky
paint on paper, 30 x 22 inches
2007



Meditating Prince
paint on paper, 30 x 22 inches
2006



Imperial Family
paint on paper, 30 x 22 inches
2006



Evil Spirit
paint on paper, 30 x 22 inches
2007



Court Jester With Broken Heart
paint on paper, 30 x 22 inches
2007



Prince Become King
paint on paper, 30 x 22 inches
2006



Pieta
paint on paper, 30 x 22 inches
2007



Strength
paint on paper, 30 x 22 inches
2007



Net Browse
paint on paper, 15 x 11 inches
2006



Cyberworld
paint on paper, 15 x 11 inches
2006



Conspiracy
paint on paper, 15 x 11 inches
2006

Goro Kadoi

Education

New York Studio School
New York NY 1995-1999

Hochshule der Kunst
Berlin Germany Fall 1997

Completed Master of Fine Arts in Sculpture
Nihon University, Graduate School of Fine Arts and Design
Tokyo Japan 1995

Graduated from Nihon University College of Art
Tokyo Japan 1993

Group Shows

"5 sculptors, 5 expressions II"
Gallery Saito,
Nagoya, Japan 2006

"New York Studio School Alumni show 2006"
Painting Center
New York, NY 2006

"NY meet NJ" show
Annex Gallery
Jersey City, NJ 2006

"5 sculptors, 5 expressions"
Gallery Saito,
Nagoya, Japan 2005

Get Real Art Gallery Artist Group Show
Get Real Art Gallery
New York NY 2003

Grand Opening Exhibition
65 Hope Street Ceramic Gallery
Brooklyn NY 2000

Student Group Show
New York Studio School
New York NY 1998

Student Group Show
New York Studio School
New York NY 1997

Graduate Exhibition of Master of Arts Program
Nihon University College of Art
Tokyo Japan 1995

Solo Show

"Goro Kadoi New Works 2005"
Joachim Gallery,
Berlin Germany 2005

"Goro Kadoi Exhibition"
65 Hope Street Gallery
Brooklyn NY 2001

"Goro Kadoi: New Works "
Gallery Hinoki,
Tokyo Japan 1994

Awards

New York Studio School Award for Best Sculptor
New York NY 1998

New York Studio School Award for Best Sculptor
New York NY 1997

Nihon University College of Industrial Technology
Prize for Art, Installed Work "Sharing the Space II"
Permanently on Campus Grounds
Tokyo Japan 1993

Collections

Mrs. Ellen Berman, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Berman, Tokyo, Japan

Mr. Martin Hames, Birmingham, Alabama

Kitano Lifelong Educational Association, Tokyo

Nihon University College of Industrial Technology, Tokyo

Mrs. Marlene Pohost, Los Angeles, California

Tokai Unyu Kensetsu Trucking Co., Yokkaichi Japan

Mr. Hitoshi Yamanouchi, Tokyo

Ms. Susan Jarrel, New York, NY.

Ms. Aki Tsujimoto, Kuwana, Japan

Ms. Miyuki Nakamori, Nagoya, Japan

Ms. Miki Ito, Kuwana, Japan

Ms. Megumi Takeda, Toyota, Japan

Ms. Kaoru Sato

Ms. Fumiko Ishigaki

Ms. Michiko Yokoi

RICH FOG



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