



The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper

Victor Klassen

Ethnic Convergence

February 22 - April 3, 2007



Commentary by Julie Oakes

Victor Klassen

Ethnic Convergence

February 22 - April 3, 2007

Artist Catalog, 'Victor Klassen - Headbones Gallery, The Drawers '
Copyright © 2007, Headbones Gallery

Commentary by Julie Oakes
Copyright © 2007, Julie Oakes

Images Copyright © 2007, Victor Klassen

Rich Fog Micro Publishing, printed in Toronto, 2007
Layout and Design, Richard Fogarty

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, except as may be expressly permitted by the 1976 copyright act or in writing from Headbones Gallery. Requests for permission to use these images should be addressed in writing to Victor Klassen, c/o Headbones Gallery, 260 Carlaw Avenue, Unit 102, Toronto, Ontario M4M 3L1 Canada
Telephone/Facsimile: 416-465-7352 Email: info@headbonesgallery.com
Director: Richard Fogarty
www.headbonesgallery.com

Victor Klassen

Julie Oakes

Pure abstraction is untainted by direct references to the physical world although it can provoke associations with elements from our corporeal existence. It is a product of the mind and because it is less concerned with the material world - although tied by the medium to the art world - it grants a picture of the make-up of consciousness. Man is aware of himself as an individual identity and yet where he places himself, the extreme 'I', is more a sense of belief or an idea than a realized concept. And thus, abstraction embodies mind, wherein the spirit is housed. Victor Klassen presents a picture of the interlacing thoughts and spaces between (as in 'spaced out') His work lends an intricacy that supports the dexterity of the mind as the eye travels along the colorful ropy highways, back into the depths of space and even now and again flying off the page, only to be drawn back into the maze with an invitation to consider visual phenomena, a product of the mind.

The richness of colors parallels the fabric of a life that has integrated cultures and religions (with their attendant visuals) into the solid homespun cloth of a Mennonite upbringing. Victor Klassen comes from a Canadian Mennonite family. He practices an Eastern meditation discipline - Vipasana. He has lived in Mexico for the past twenty years where he married a Mexican woman and has raised his daughter with dual citizenships. His life, infused with the diversity of vastly different cultural influences is reflected in his work, woven from a saturated palette to form a ground of color that is broken periodically by visual exclamations. His exposure to global influence produced a true ethnic convergence for he is an artist who has assimilated and processed the possibilities of a borderless existence, a deep actualization of world peace.

The product that Klassen hands over is a tool that allows the viewer to escape the round of earthly things and engage in a more elevated conversation with visual phenomena. It is like the space inside the head when with eyes shut, the traces of perception gradually recede and a freer and less constrained sense takes over. An untarnished field of color and light is there to be explored with tangential connections and veils lifted. This is when abstraction is pure, unattached to the agendas of virtual reality and let loose.



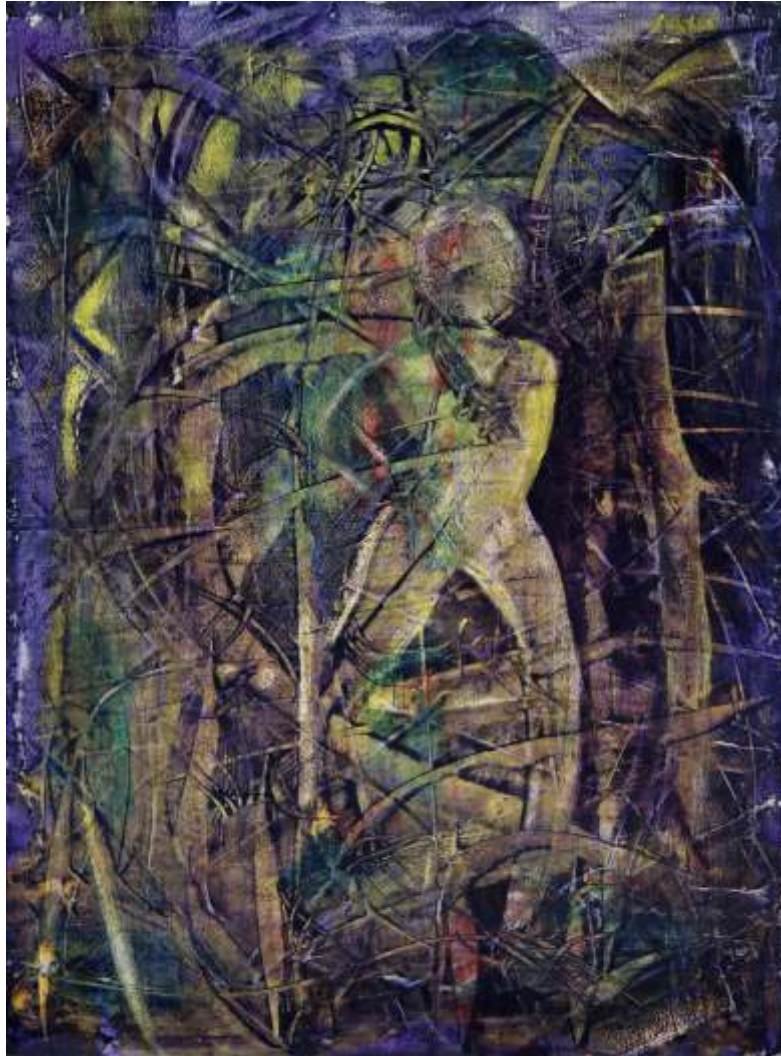
No Title
acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches
2006



Working The Colour
acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches
2006



Entering
acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches
2006



Gunning Down The Forest
acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches
2006



No Title
acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches
2006



Abstract
acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches
2006



Trying To See Clearly
acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches
2006



Mental Landscape In Blue
acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches
2006



Listening
acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches
2006



What Water Sings
acrylic on paper, 22 x 30 inches
2006

Victor Klassen

Education

UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA.

Nsukka, E. Nigeria, Historia of Africa. 1964-65.

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO.

Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.,History degree 1965-67.

Additional Studies

Tai Chi Chuan, Toronto, Canada.

Meditacion Vipassana, Meditation. 1985.

Study of Colour Theory and drawing with Luis Quintanilla, 1985.

Exposicions

CASA DE CULTURA, Valle de Bravo, Mex. Mex

Colective, Bronze and Word sculpture, 2006

CASA DE CULTURA, Valle de Bravo, Mex. Mex

Individual, Acyrlc Paintings, Bronze and

Word sculpture, 2006

CASA DE CULTURA, Valle de Bravo, Mex. Mex.

Bronze and Word sculpture

Exposición Colectiva, 2005

HOTEL FOUR SEASONS, Mexico, D.F.

Sculpture in Word and Bronze, 2005

CASA DE CULTURA, Valle De Bravo, Estado de Mexico

Wood sculpture

Exposición Colectiva 2004

CASA DE CULTURA , Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico
Wood sculpture
Exposición Colectiva. 2003

SALA DE EXPOSICIONES DE LA UAEM, Toluca ,Mexico
Wood and Bronze sculpture
Acrylic paintings
Individual 2003

MUSEO J.A. PAGAZA I.M.C., Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico
Wood sculpture
Exposición Colectiva. 2002.

ART NOVA, Polanco, Ciudad de Mexico
Wood and Bronze sculpture
Permanent exposición 2002

MUSEO J.A. PAGAZA I.M.C., Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico
Wood Sculpture
Colective . 2001.

CASA DE CULTURA, Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico
Wood sculpture
Colectiva. 2001.

ARTE Y ENCUENTRO, Polanco, Ciudad de Mexico
Wood and Bronze
Exposición permanente. 1996.

SUMMA ARTIST, Polanco, Ciudad de Mexico
Wood and Bronze
Exposición permanente. 1998

INSTITUTO CULTURAL JUAREZ, Toluca, Estado de Mexico
Wood and Bronze
Colectiva. 1997

SUMMA ARTIST, Polanco, Ciudad de Mexico
Wood and Bronze
Colectiva. 1997

CASA DE ADOBE, Toluca, Estado de Mexico
Wood and Bronze
Colectiva. 1997.

ARTE Y ENCUENTRO, Wood and Bronze
Colectiva. 1996.

LAUGHING AT THE SUN GALLERY, Austin, Texas, Estados Unidos.
Wood and Bronze
Colectiva. 1996.

LAS JAULAS, Polanco, Mexico, D.F.
Wood and Bronze
Exposición individual. 1996.

CENTRO CULTURAL J.A. PAGAZA, IMC, Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico
"Formas de esperanza"
Acrylic Paintings, Wood and Bronze Sculpture
Exposición individual. 1996.

GALERIA JLS, Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico
Wood sculpture
Exposición colectiva. 1994.

CENTRO TONATZIN

Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico
Bronze and wood Sculpture, 1992.

GALLERIE ROCHON

Toronto, Ontario
Wood sculpture
Exposición individual. 1992.

CASA DE CULTURA

Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico
Wood and Bronze sculpture 1990.

GALERIA JLS

Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico
Acyflic Paintings, Wood and Bronze sculpture
Exposición colectiva. 1990.

CASA DE CULTURA

Valle de Bravo, Estado de Mexico
"Sillas" Sculptural furniture
Exposición colectiva. 1987.

RICH FOG



Micro Publishing
Toronto Canada