



The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper

Donna Kriekle

An Exotic Erotic Christmas

December 9 - January 11, 2007



Commentary by Julie Oakes

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Donna Kriekle

Julie Oakes

Amongst all of the 'isms' where do you place Donna Kriekle's opalescent, metallic renderings of grasshoppers courting, fore-playing and eventually copulating? In the realm of delight, whimsy and play.

Art has been historically associated with the lofty realms, high and intellectual thoughts, religious inquiries, votive inspiration and moral example. Lighter and less pontificating were the pastorals; neo-classicism and beauty rising to the surface and allowing for sensual appreciation. Donna takes a rather annoying bug, the grasshopper which is especially obnoxious to prairie people, and grants it light consideration. In doing so, the fragile exoskeletons, painted with metallic paints become as gorgeous as the scarab jewelry of the Egyptians. To further the reclamation of dignity, Donna has depicted them mating adding a prelude to the sex act that parallels human mating activities. She grants them specificity with vague identities, preferences and grace. The thin legs of the grasshoppers form patterns, their brittle arms clasp each other to their breast plates and the pictorial depiction of sex in the field is presented from a perspective that is eye to eye with the act, right in the range of the intimate buggy encounter.

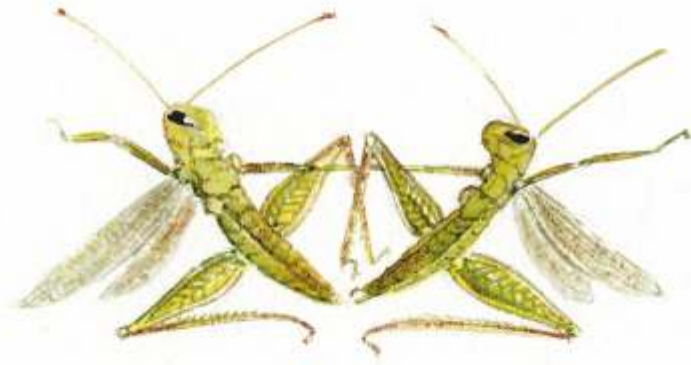
The black backgrounds with the iridescent paint further allude to science fiction. The robotic semblance, aerodynamic shapes and architectonic angles, as they glow from the darkness of a matt black ground remind us that within nature lie the origins of the mechanical. There is also a grim insinuation that the toxic chemicals used to spray the grasslands and protect the harvest for human consumption just might have crept into the biological makeup of the grasshoppers and created their eerie luminosity. Perhaps there is a philosophy related to quantum physics at play in the miniature dance of the grasshoppers and Kriekle's delight is the pathway to the awareness of the interconnection between species.



For Play #2
acrylic on black alphamat, 7.5 x 5.5 inches
2006



For Play #9
acrylic on metallic aluminum, 7 x 5 inches
2006



For Play #11
watercolor & acrylic on arches, 7.5 x 5.5 inches
2006



For Play #7
acrylic on metallic aluminum, 7 x 5 inches
2006



For Play #3
acrylic on black alphamat, 7.5 x 5.5 inches
2006



For Play #5
acrylic on black alphamat, 7.5 x 5.5 inches
2006



For Play #12
watercolor & acrylic on arches, 7.5 x 5.5 inches
2006



For Play #8
acrylic on metallic alphamat, 7 x 5 inches
2006



For Play #1
acrylic on black alphamat, 7.5 x 5.5 inches
2006



For Play #4
acrylic on black alphamat, 7.5 x 5.5 inches
2006



For Play #6
acrylic on black alphamat, 7.5 x 5.5 inches
2006



For Play #10
watercolor & acrylic on arches, 7.5 x 5.5 inches
2006

Donna Kriekle

Group Exhibitions

- 2005 - 2007 *Gallery Artists*, Nouveau Gallery, Regina
- 2005 - 2007 *Gallery artists*, The Drawers, Toronto
- 2005 *Smaller*, Neutral Ground, Regina
- 1980 - 2005 *Gallery Artists*, Susan Whitney Gallery, Regina
- 2002 - 2004 *Toronto International Art Fair*, Susan Whitney Gallery
- 2001 *Anatomy of a Garden*, MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina
- 1999 *Treasures from the Vault - Regionalism Reconstructed*, MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina
- 1995 - 1998 *Survivors: in Search of a Voice*, (video installation). Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto; Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton; Art Gallery of Nova Scotia; Mackenzie Art Gallery, Regina; Government Conference Centre, Ottawa; Thunder Bay Art Gallery, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, N.Y; King of Prussia Plaza, Philadelphia; Las Vegas Art Museum, Las Vegas, Detroit, Los Angeles, Hartford, Johannesburg
- 1995 *Call and Response*, Neutral Ground, Regina
- 1995 *In Search of Feminism*, Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC
- 1991 -19 93 *Earthlines, Deadlines, Lifelines*, toured Western Canada, California
- 1992 *1982 - 1992*, Neutral Ground, Regina
- 1990 *Art LA `90*, Los Angeles Convention Centre, Los Angeles, California
- Small Matters*, Neutral Ground, Regina
- Living Canadian Artists*, MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina
- 1988 *Invitational 1988*, Nancy Poole's Studio, Toronto
- 1987 -1989 *The Farm Show - A Documentary*, A.K.A., toured Saskatchewan
- 1986 *Living Nature*, National Museum of Natural Sciences, Ottawa
- Saskatchewan Pavilion*, Expo `86, Vancouver, BC
- A Sense of Place*, Rosemont Art Gallery, Regina

- 1986 - 1990 *Gallery Artists*, Woltjen/Udell Galleries, Vancouver & Edmonton
1986 *An International Correspondence Art Exhibition*, Neutral Ground, Regina
1985 *The Second Generation*, MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina
1982 *Saskatchewan Open*, Mendel Art Gallery, Saskatoon, SK

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 1993 *Lifelines*, Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina
1989 *Time Capsule*, Installation, Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina
1988 Woltjen/Udell Gallery, Vancouver
1988 Nancy Poole's Studio, Toronto
1986 - 1987 *Artists With their Work*, MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina
1982 & 1982 Susan Whitney Gallery, Regina, SK

COMMISSIONS

Royal Saskatchewan Museum, *Saskatchewan 1900* - 4' x 32' diorama.
Portrait of Lt. *Governor Frederick Johnson*. Coll: Government of Saskatchewan, Regina Court House.
University of Toronto, International Conference on Gifted Learning
The Saskatchewan Writers Guild - 25th Anniversary, visual identity.

AWARDS

Saskatchewan Arts Board Grants - 1979, 1982, 1985, 1988, 1991, 1998

DIGITAL ARTS

Im`pulse - video performance - 4 min. *Canadian Winter Sports Series - palettes of ice*.
Screenings: Canadian Conference for the Arts - Annual Conference, 2004;
Neutral Ground, April, 1999.
Hearts on Fire video loop - 4 min. *Ceremonies of arrival and departure*.

Screenings: Soil, Neutral Ground, Feb 14, 1998; SMPIA, Reel Revel, Nov 97
One in 9 - video loop - 4 min. *The odds of Breast Cancer* Installation - in
v/a exhibition Survivors

Screenings: See *Visual Arts Group Exhibitions*; SMPIA Showcase, 1995,
Experimental Award nomination.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Jenkner, Ingrid. *LIFELINES*, Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina, 1993.

Marzolf, Helen. *Case Installation Series*, Dunlop Art Gallery, 1990.

McConnell, Clyde. *The Prairies; Recent Exhibits in Alberta and Saskatchewan*, The Art Post, Vol. 2, 1985.

Perreault, W. *Saskatchewan: A Sense of Place*, Rosemont Art Gallery, 1986.

Perry, Meta. *Artist Muses on Grasshoppers' Perspective*, Regina Leader Post, Oct. 30, 1986.

Zepp, Norman. *Donna Kriekle - Artists With Their Work*, Mackenzie, Art Gallery, 1984.

Zepp, Norman and Park-Taylor, Michael. *The Second Generation: Fourteen Saskatchewan Painters*, MacKenzie Art Gallery, 1985

EDUCATION

1995- 2005 Banff Centre, New Media Institute: Big Game Hunters Summit, Interactive Screen, Visual Design & Educational Design for New Media.

SIAS: Photoshop, Illustrator, DreamWeaver, Flash, Web Design.

1970 - 1971 Concordia, Montreal. *Directed studies - The History of Art & Comparative Religions.*

1969 University of Regina, B.A. Fine Arts

RICH FOG



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