



The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper

Mitchell Friedman

Highly Recommended

January 11 - February 20, 2007



Commentary by Julie Oakes

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Artist Catalog, 'Mitchell Friedman - Headbones Gallery, The Drawers '
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Mitchell Friedman

Julie Oakes

With such a young history, outside of the original native culture, pure American folk tales and mythological characters are sparse, but poignant - Johnny Appleseed, Paul Bunyan, Paul Revere, Uncle Sam and Aunt Jemima, to name a few. Born of the common folk, they were graphically realized in simple materials, wood carvings, woodblock prints, embroidery and simple multiple procedures. Reflected in the style that rose with The Ashcan School, the artists presented a rakishly thin, almost caricatured rendition of its citizenry and the animals, usually domestic, followed suit. Partially due to visible poverty simply being translated into visual formats, the style had an apocalyptic edge, as if the inhabitants of this world of physical deprivation and difficulties were poised on the edge of death. So it is in the work of Mitchell Friedman. The dark environs, countrified and deserted where boney horses wander and the specter of a hanged man delivers a bleak message of human recrimination, a Blake-like handling is dramatically delivered.

The light is fractured as if splintered by lightening. It is the world of witches and rumor mongering and it is a pertinent parallel to the political climate that exists in America today. Although not entirely statement oriented there is a visible delight in the working of the medium, especially the excitement of chiaroscuro contrasts and vivid accents of lurid coloration - the hint of radiated waves emanating from far distant and ominous explosions is implied. Partially a by-product of the technique, the unflinching rawness of jagged lines and spiky extremeness is discomfoting. Yet with the tragic grandeur of depressed conditions, also comes a flicker of positive recognition and hope.



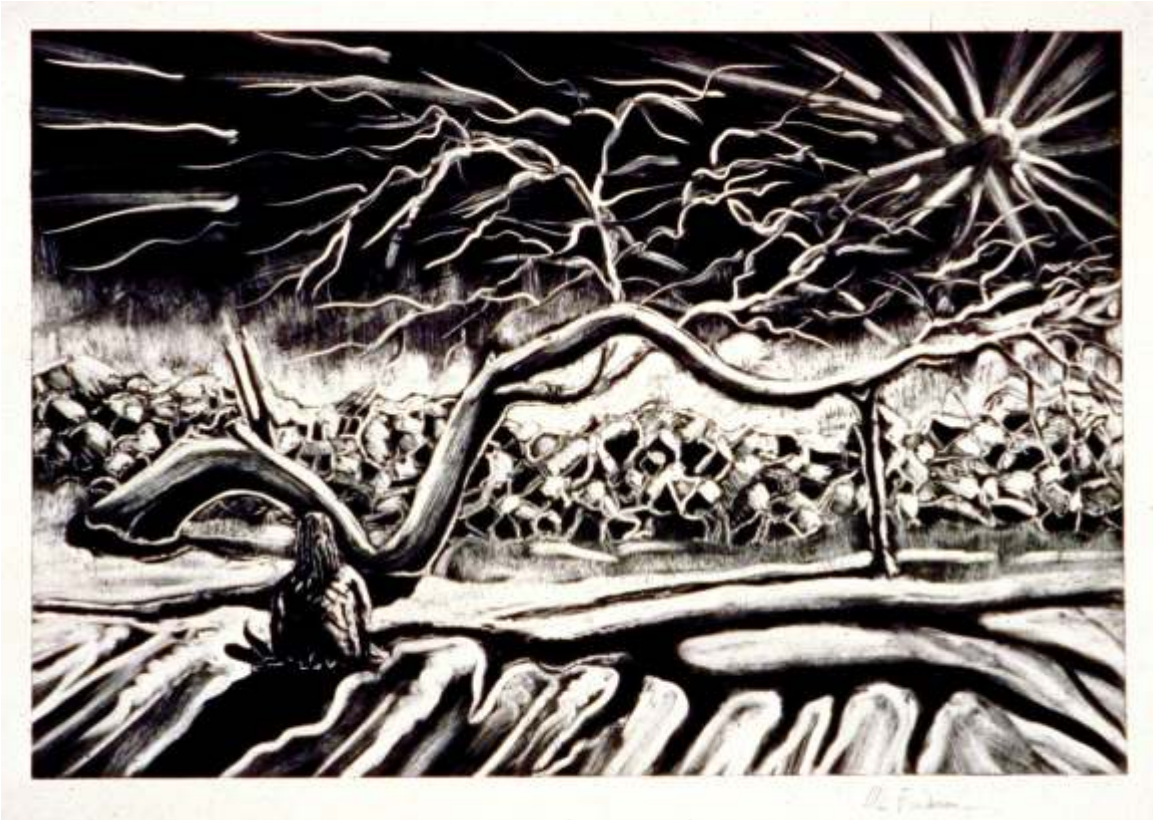
Swamp
pastel and oil on paper, 43 x 31 inches
2005



Noon Witch
graphite and oil on paper, 42 x 31 inches
2006



Reunion
monotype, 31 x 43 inches
2004



Meditation
monotype, 31 x 43 inches
2002



Mad Cows
monotype, 48 x 34 inches
2004



Sturm und Drang
monotype, 31 x 43 inches
2003



1/1

M.L. Friedman

Sway
woodcut, 26 x 20 inches
2005



St. George
etching and monprint, 22 x 15 inches
2006



The Chalk Horse
etching, 30 x 22 inches
2005



The Road
pastel and oil on paper, 43 x 31 inches
2005

Mitchell Friedman

EXHIBITIONS

- 2007 *CONTRARY to the Laws of Nature*, Sarah Lee Artworks & Projects, Santa Monica, CA, Group show
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, Headbones Gallery, Toronto, Canada
LANDSCAPES, Jose Drudis-Biada Art Gallery, Mount St Mary's College, Los Angeles, CA Group show
- 2006 *RECENT WORK*, Don O'Melveny Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, *One Person Show*
- 2004 *CT PRINTS*, Westport Arts Center, Westport CT
- 2003 *Surrealism Unbound*, Ward Nasse Gallery Chelsea, New York City
Poetry into Print, Center for Contemporary Printmaking, Norwalk, CT
The Extended Portrait, Silvermine Guild Arts Center, New Canaan, CT
- 2002 *COLOR MY WORLD*, Stamford Museum, Stamford, CT, *One Person Show*
- 2001 *LITERARY SOURCES*, Narrative Paintings & Works On paper, Weston Library, Weston, CT, *One Person Show*
CHROMOPHOBIA, Silvermine Art Center, New Canaan, CT
PAPER PRINT PROCESS, Westport Art Center, Westport, CT
ART NOIR, Silvermine Art Center, New Canaan, CT, *Three Person Show*
- 2000 *DOMESTICATED ANIMALS*, Works on Paper, Hays Gallery, Silvermine Art Center, New Canaan, CT, *One person Show*
CULTURAL EXCHANGE, Silvermine Art Center, New Canaan, CT
PAPERWORKS, Connecticut Graphic Arts, Norwalk, CT
PAST PRESENT FUTURE, Silvermine Guild Galleries, New Canaan, CT
- 1998 *WEIR FARM VISITING ARTIST*, Stamford Museum, Stamford, CT, *Five Person Show*
ART AS SPECTACLE, Katonah Museum, Katonah, NY
- 1997 *NEW YORK ARTIST EQUITY 50TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBIT*, Broome Street Gallery, NYC
INTERNATIONAL MINIATURE PRINT EXHIBITION, Connecticut Graphic Arts, Norwalk, CT
- 1996 *WORKS ON PAPER*, Rosenfeld Gallery, Westport Art Center, *One Person Show*
ARTISTS INVITE ARTISTS, Art/Place, Southport, CT
RESIDENT ARTISTS, Cheeseborough Ponds Gallery, Westport Art Center, Westport, CT
- 1993 *PAINTINGS & MONOTYPES*, Brand Library Art Galleries, Glendale CA, *One Person Show*
- 1991 *TEN CALIFORNIA ARTISTS*, Downey Museum Of ART, Downey, CA
- 1989 *PAINTINGS & MONOTYPES*, Ankrum Gallery, Los Angeles CA, *One Person Show*
THE AMERICAN MONOTYPE, Sragow Gallery, New York, NY
GALLERY ARTISTS, Ankrum Gallery, Los Angeles CA

- 1988 *DRAMA TO MELODRAMA*, First Street Gallery, New York, NY, *Four Person Show*
ARF ART, Trabia/Macaffee Gallery, New York, NY
- 1986 *GALLERY ARTISTS*, Jayne H. Baum Gallery, New York, NY
- 1985 *HUDSON VALLEY '85*, Mid-Hudson Arts Center, Poughkeepsie, NY
- 1984 *INVITATIONAL SHOW*, A.I.R. Gallery, New York, NY
- 1983 *INVITATIONAL SHOW*, A.I.R. Gallery, New York, NY
- 1981 *PRINTS & DRAWINGS*, Upper Jewett, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College,
Hanover, NH, *One Person Show*
- 1980 *GROUP SHOW*, Elaine Horowitch Gallery, Santa Fe, NM

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

- THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART, Toledo, Ohio
- THE SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART, San Diego, CA
- THE FINE ARTS MUSEUMS OF SAN FRANCISCO, San Francisco, CA
- THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, Washington, DC
- THE HOOD MUSEUM, Hanover, NH
- THE OAKLAND MUSEUM, Oakland, CA
- THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY PRINT COLLECTION, New York, NY
- THE ACHENBACH FOUNDATION FOR THE GRAPHIC ARTS, San Francisco, CA

EXPERIENCE

- Visiting Artist, Weir Farm Heritage Trust, Wilton, CT 1998
- Silvermine Guild Art Center, New Canaan, CT, artist member 1997-present
- Master Printer, Mitchell Friedman Studio, New York, NY
- Shop Artists included: Jim Dine, Wolf Kahn and R.B. Kitaj 1975-83
- Director, The Monotype Studio, New York, NY
- Experimental Printmaking Workshop

EDUCATION

Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME
Graphics Scholarship Recipient 1975
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH
B.A. Cum Laude, 1974

TEACHING

Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH
Printmaking workshop / lecture. Winter 2000
Hood Museum, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH
Gallery Talk: Jim Dine Prints, Summer 1999
Connecticut Graphic Arts Center, Norwalk, CT
Advanced Monotype Course, 1998
AH-AH School of Art, Telluride, CO
Introductory Etching, Summer 1993
California State University, Los Angeles, CA
Lecturer, Assistant Professor, Introductory Drawing, 1992
Los Angeles High School for the Arts, Los Angeles, CA
Drawing, 1990, The Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo Ohio
Visiting Lecturer in Printmaking, Fall 1982
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH
Visiting Faculty in Art, Spring/Summer 1982
Advanced & Beginning Printmaking and Drawing
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Guest Lecturer with Jim Dine, Artist-in-Residence, 1980
Williams College, Williamstown, MA
Guest Lecturer with Jim Dine, Artist-in-Residence, 1978
Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH
Art Department Teaching Assistant, 1974-76

RICH FOG



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