

MICHAEL REAFSNYDER

Born 1969, Orange, California
Lives and works in Southern California

EDUCATION

1996 MFA, Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, California
1992 BA, Chapman University, Orange, California

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 Western Project, *Put it There*, Culver City, California
Rebecca Ibel Gallery, Columbus, Ohio
- 2009 RB Stevenson Gallery, *Undone*, La Jolla, California
- 2007 Western Project, *Aqua La La*, Culver City, California
W.C.C.A., *Fresh*, Singapore
RB Stevenson Gallery, *Whirl*, La Jolla, California
- 2005 Las Vegas Art Museum, Las Vegas, Nevada. *More: Paintings and Sculpture from 2002-2005*, Curated by Libby Lumpkin
- 2004 Uplands Gallery, *Yum-Yum*, Melbourne, Australia
- 2003 Mark Moore Gallery, *Paintings*, Santa Monica, California
- 2002 Galeria Marta Cervera, *Paintings*, Madrid, Spain
Finesilver, *Paintings*, San Antonio, Texas
- 2001 Mark Moore Gallery, *Paintings*, Santa Monica, California
Artissima, *Present/ Future*, Turin, Italy
- 1999 Mark Moore Gallery, *Paintings*, Santa Monica, California
Cheryl Pelavin Fine Art, *Monotypes/ Paintings*, New York, New York
- 1997 Blum and Poe, *Paintings*, Santa Monica, California
- 1996 Art Center College of Design, *Paintings*, Pasadena, California

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 Peggy Phelps Gallery, *Forever Now*, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, California
Pacific Design Center, *Keramik*, Los Angeles, California
- 2009 Blaffer Gallery, *Electric Mud*, curated by David Pagel, University of Houston, Houston, Texas
Morgan Lehman, *Selected Works from Pilliod Records*, New York, New York
Donna Beam Art Gallery, *Way Out West*, Las Vegas, Nevada
CTRL, *Good Ship Lollipop*, Houston, Texas
RB Stevenson Gallery, *Well-Tempered*, La Jolla, California
Western Project, Culver City, California
Laguna Art Museum, *Collecting California: Selections from Laguna Art Museum*, Laguna Beach, California
- 2008 Sweeney Art Gallery, *Like Lifelike*, curated by Brad Spence, University of California, Riverside, California
Cypress College Art Gallery, *iCandy: Current Abstraction in Southern California*, Cypress, California
Rebecca Ibel Gallery, *Splash*, Columbus, Ohio
Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion, *Luscious Abstraction*, Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, California
Black Dragon Society, *Black Dragon Society*, Los Angeles, California
- 2007 Rebecca Ibel Gallery, *Summer Selections*, Columbus, Ohio
RB Stevenson Gallery, *Abstract*, La Jolla, California
Harris Art Gallery, *Combo Platter: Collaborative Works by Michael Reafsnyder and David Kiddie*. University of La Verne, La Verne, California
- 2006 David Reed Studio, *Too Many Tear Drops*, New York, New York
Mandarin, *A Little So Cal Abstraction*, Los Angeles, California
West Coast Contemporary Art, *Discovery*, Singapore
- 2005 Ben Maltz Gallery, Otis Art Institute, *Step Into Liquid*, curated by Dave Hickey, Los Angeles, California
Mark Moore Gallery, *In Bloom*, Santa Monica, California
Black Dragon Society, Los Angeles, California

- 2004 Gallery Eugene Lendl, *Fresh Paint*, Graz, Austria
Mark Moore Gallery, *Painting and Sculpture*, Santa Monica, California
Laguna Art Museum, *Funny Business: Humor in Art from the Permanent Collection*, Laguna Beach, California
Laguna Art Museum, *The O Scene*, Laguna Beach, California
Claremont Graduate School, *Now and Then Some*, Claremont, California
- 2003 Uplands Gallery, *LA TAP*, Melbourne, Australia
Manny Silverman Gallery, *Not the Usual Suspects*, curated by James Hayward, Los Angeles, California
Charlotte Jackson Fine Art, *Pfat and Sassy*, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Peter Blake Gallery, *Extreme Paint*, Laguna Beach, California
- 2002 Modernism, *Five Times Four*, San Francisco, California
Guggenheim Gallery, Chapman University, *Trade Show*, Orange, California
Portland Art Museum, *New in Town*, curated by Bruce Guenther, Portland, Oregon
- 2002 Mark Moore Gallery, *Western States*, Santa Monica, California
- 2001 University of North Texas, *Cal's Art, Sampling California Painting*, Denton, Texas
Laguna Art Museum, *One Minute of Your Time: A Brief Survey of Southern California Art from 1835 to 2001*, curated by Tyler Stallings, Laguna Beach, California
Art Frankfurt, *The Stuff Dreams are Made From*, Frankfurt, Germany.
- 2000 Todd Hosfelt Gallery, *New Work: Abstract Painting*, San Francisco, California
The Jones Center for Contemporary Art, *New American Painting 15*, curated by David Pagel, Austin, Texas
Mark Moore Gallery, *Paint, American Style*, Santa Monica, California
Gallery Marabini, *Radar Love (with Gajin Fujita, Andrea Bowers and Linda Stark)*, Bologna, Italy.
- 1999 Black Dragon Society, *Under 500: Intimate Abstract Paintings*, Los Angeles, California
Cheryl Pelavin Fine Art, *LA/ New York Abstract*, New York, New York
- 1996 The Loft, *Risk*, Laguna Beach, California
- 1995 *Gander Mountain High, Ride 'Um Hunter*, curated by Daniel Mendel-Black, Pasadena, California

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- Anania, Katie. "A Gorgeous Mess." Las Vegas City Life 7 Oct. 2005.
- Artrois, Stella. "Exhibitionism/ Painting Out the Century." Flaunt 1999: 133-34.
- B, C. "'Kamasutra a Ritmo di Rock'" Gulliver Dec. 2000: 336.
- Baker, Kenneth. "Abstraction at Todd Hosfelt Gallery." San Francisco Chronicle 8 Jan. 2000: B1.
- "Ramos and Five Times Four at Modernism." San Francisco Chronicle 14 Dec. 2002.
- Biel, Kim. "Michael Reafsnyder." Art Ltd. June 2007.
- Britt, Douglas. "Blaffer Gallery Hosting Art Rebellion." Houston Chronicle 26 Mar. 2009
- "California Dream." Flash Art Italy Oct. 2000: 65.
- Chang, Richard. "Celebrating O.C.'s Own Scene." Orange County Register 7 Nov. 2004.
- Dambrot, Shana Nys. "Michael Reafsnyder at Mark Moore Gallery." Artweek June 2003.
- "Sculpture Part Two at Western Project." Artweek Oct. 2008.
- Ellertson, Karrin. "New in Town." Portland Mercury Apr. 2002.
- Ellgood, Anne. New American Painting 2004.
- Forestieri, Susanne. "Fine Blend." Las Vegas Weekly 3 Sept. 2009.
- Franceschetti, Roberta. "Arte & Mercado: Bologna." Arte Jan. 2001: 210.
- Frank, Peter. "A Little So Cal Abstraction." LA Weekly 27 Sept. 2006.
- Galletta, Alessandra. "Ritorno Alla Pitture." Kult Dec. 2000: 145.
- Hickey, Dave. "Best of the 90's." Artforum Dec. 1999: 112.
- "Four Fish Tacos and a Step Into Liquid." Otis College of Art and Design Magazine (2006).
- Honotora, Javier. "Michael Reafsnyder at Galeria Marta Cervera." El Mundo [Madrid] 16 Jan. 2003.
- Jones, Tricia. "Three Shows Under One Museum Roof." The Columbian 12 Apr. 2002: F3+.
- Knight, Christopher. "45 Painters Under 45." Los Angeles Times 2 Dec. 2007.
- "Just Going with the Flow." Los Angeles Times 14 Jan. 2006.
- "Melding divergent forces, with a smile." Los Angeles Times Feb. 2007.
- "Michael Reafsnyder at Mark Moore Gallery." Art Issues Mar. 2000.
- "Michael Reafsnyder at Mark Moore Gallery." Los Angeles Times 12 Apr. 2003.
- Meyers, Terry. "Step Into Liquid." Modern Painters Feb. 2006.
- "Michael Reafsnyder at Western Project." Web Article. Saatchi-Gallery Online. Feb 17 2007.

Molinari, Guido. "Radar Love." Flash Art Italy Dec. 2001.

"9 picks that say peace out to the left eye." Williamette Week 1 May 2002: 33.

Pagel, David. "A Few Tests to See How Much Input the Brain Can Handle: Michael Reafsnyder." Los Angeles Times 8 June 2001.

"A Little So Cal Abstraction." Los Angeles Times Sept. 2006.

"Aperto: Los Angeles." Flash Art Mar. 1998.

"Art Reviews: Michael Reafsnyder at Mark Moore Gallery." Los Angeles Times Mar. 2003: F33.

"Editor's Choice: Michael Reafsnyder." Bomb Winter 1998.

"Michael Reafsnyder at Blum and Poe." Los Angeles Times May 1997.

"Not the Usual Suspects at Manny Silverman Gallery." Los Angeles Times 1 Aug. 2003.

"Rambunctious Group Energy." Los Angeles Times 29 Aug. 2008.

Peterson, Kristen. "An Infusion of Art: Contemporary works from Los Angeles." Las Vegas Sun 11 Sept. 2009.

Pincus, Robert. "Quartet of Soloists." San Diego-Union Tribune 26 Nov. 2009.

"He's Come Undone." San Diego Union-Tribune 13 Aug. 2009.

"Whirl at RB Stevenson Gallery." San Diego Union-Tribune Apr. 2007.

Plagens, Peter, and Corrie Brown. "Hollywood's Big Art Deal." Newsweek 6 Dec. 1999: 78-80.

"Present/ Future at Artissima 2001." Art and Job 2001.

"Radar Love at Galeria Marabini." Flash Art Italy Nov. 2000.

Reed, Victoria. "Michael Reafsnyder at RB Stevenson Gallery." Artweek June 2007.

Row, D. K. "Two Hands Clapping." The Oregonian 12 Apr. 2002: 52+.

Schlesinger, Mark. "A Musing: The Work of Michael Reafsnyder." Perla Oct. 2002.

Schweighofer, T. "Take Away at Der Galerie Lendl in Graz." Kroen-Zeihiup [Graz] 31 Dec. 2004.

Twardy, Chuck. "Paintings pose questions about possibility for soulful abstraction." Las Vegas Weekly 27 Oct. 2005.

"UNT Explores methods, inspiration of California Art." Chronicle, University of Northern Texas (Sept. 2001).

Uplands Gallery. Interview with Michael Reafsnyder. Brochure. Melbourne: Author, 2004.

"Visual Marvels: Michael Reafsnyder." Singapore Tatler Nov. 2007.

Wilkinson, Jeanne C. "Smiley Faces Emerge from Swirls of Abstraction." Tribeca Trib Sept. 1999.

Wille, Chris. "Fruit Loop Turns into Treat." Spokesman Review [Spokane] 7 Apr. 2002: 114.

Yelo, Maria G. "Michael Reafsnyder at Galeria Marta Cervera." ABC [Madrid] 16 Jan. 2003.

SELECTED CATALOGS

Collecting California: Selections from Laguna Art Museum: Laguna Beach, California, 2010.

Pagel, David, and Sara Cochran. Electric Mud. Houston: Blaffer Gallery, 2009.

Spence, Brad. Like LifeLike. Riverside: University of California, 2008.

White, Wayne and Cliff Benjamin. Michael Reafsnyder: Aqua LaLa. Culver City: Western Project, 2007.

Dambrot, Shana Nys. Combo Platter: Collaborative Works by Michael Reafsnyder and David Kiddie. University of La Verne: Harris Art Gallery, 2007.

A Little So Cal Abstraction. Los Angeles: Mandarin Gallery, 2006.

Present/Future. Turin: Artissima, 2001.

Art Out of School. Beverly Hills: Creative Artist's Agency, 2000.

New American Talent: 15. Austin: Jones Center for Contemporary Art, 2000.

SELECTED COLLECTION

Creative Artist's Agency, Beverly Hills, California

Laguna Art Museum, Laguna, California

Las Vegas Art Museum, Las Vegas, Nevada

Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California

Portland Art Museum, Portland, Oregon

Progressive Corporation, Mayfield Village, Ohio

Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, San Diego, California

Culture Monster

Art Review: Michael Reafsnyder at Western Project

March 12, 2010

by Christopher Knight

Eight raucous and deftly handled new paintings by Michael Reafsnyder continue his delirious engagement with painterly hedonism. Drizzled, dribbled, smeared, scraped, scuffed and slippery swipes of bright, wet, acrylic color engulf the canvases like nontoxic spills. Inevitably, a small arc topped by a couple of little circles emerges somewhere in the boisterous field –Reafsnyder’s signature take on a smiley face, squeezed directly from the paint tube.

Amid all the high-spirited energy at Western Project, a small surprise occurs: The paintings are nearly upstaged by a half-dozen modest ceramic sculptures sitting quietly on plywood pedestals. These are not Reafsnyder’s first ceramics, but they are his most assured.

Where the paintings are fast, the sculptures are slow – hand-built slabs of clay that unfurl and unfold like dense bouquets of jungle blossoms or exotic undersea creatures. (The style is not similar, but the sensuous, sometimes erotic forms allude to the brilliant work of Kenneth Price.) The color is likewise different from the paintings, more low-key and pastel, with matte areas intermingled with shiny glazing. Brighter bursts are mostly restricted to the form’s curvilinear edges.

The unexpected result is small objects (nothing is over 18 inches) that look like animated drawings in space. The smiley faces also turn up, but Reafsnyder tears them asunder: One eye might encircle the end of a cylinder, while the grin assumes the form of a rolled length of colored clay. The joy is built right into the complex forms, which gives these sculptures the appearance of sentient life.













