

PRESS COVERAGE



Relative Closeness: Photographs of Family and Friends

June 11 — August 8, 2007

1. Time Out, 6.14.2007
2. Time Out, 7.5.2007

"wired" musical tapestries. New York-based Sabrina Gschwandtner creates animation from hand-stitched slides. Through Jul 24.

"Interiority." Inigo Mangano-Ovalle and Michael Rakowitz are among the artists included in this exploration of contemporary art and curatorial practices. Through Jul 29.

Illinois State Museum Chicago Gallery

FREE James R. Thompson Center, 100 W Randolph St, second floor, at Clark St (312-814-5322). El: Blue, Orange, Green, Brown, Pink, Purple (rush hrs) to Clark/Lake. Mon-Fri 9am-5pm.

"While all the Tribes of Birds Sang." Consider the sparrow. Artists have for years as this exhibition proves. This bird-inspired show (a companion to the exhibit of Audubon prints) includes work by Ruth Duckworth, Mark Crisanti, Margot Bergman, Teresa Mucha-James and Audrey Niffenegger. Through Aug 24.

International Museum of Surgical Science

1524 N Lake Shore Dr at Burton Pl (312-642-6502, imss.org). El: Red to Clark/Division. Bus: 151 Sheridan (24hrs). \$8, \$4 seniors and students. Tue-Sun 10am-4pm.

"Biological Cartography." Local artist Renee Pringle Una has created site-specific sculpture and installation work that relates the interplay of organic materials (latex, beeswax, gelatin) to maps and charts. Through Jul 20.

"Sympathetic Coordination." This show features digital prints of surgical implants and devices, such as artificial hearts, surrounded by capillarylike filaments that the Brooklyn-based artist Laura Splan has drawn in her own blood. Through Jul 20.

Intuit: The Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art

FREE 756 N Milwaukee Ave at Ogden and Chicago Aves (312-243-9088, outsiderart.org). El: Blue to Chicago. Bus: 56 Milwaukee, 66 Chicago (24hrs). Mon-Sat noon-5pm.

"Don't Fence Me In." California artist Daniel Watson, a Vietnam Veteran and college graduate, is serving a life sentence for murder. Prison art is known for its ingenuity (it's not like inmates can run out to the art supply store). Watson's sculptures, made from discarded citrus peels collected from garbage cans, demonstrate how creative one can be with limited resources. Through Jun 23.

"Lonnie Holley: Artist in Residence." Alabama-based artist Lonnie Holley is creating a site-specific installation using found and recycled materials, architectural salvage and the detritus of human activity. Through Sept 1.

Lincoln Park Conservatory

2391 N Stockton Dr at Fullerton Pl (312-742-7736, chicagoparkdistrict.com). Bus: 77, 151 (24hrs), 156. Daily 9am-5pm. **"Florasonic."** Artist Mark Booth's sound installation. In the event that the stag horn fern becomes metallic and that each of its bifurcating leaves rings like a tuning fork, please turn off this recording, alters sounds made by the guitar and human voice to imitate cicada songs. Through Sept 30.

Milwaukee Art Museum

700 N Art Museum Dr, Milwaukee, WI (414-224-3200, www.mam.org). Mon-Wed, Fri-Sun 10am-5pm; Thu 10am-8pm. \$8, \$6 seniors, \$4 students, kids under 13 free.

"Pissarro: Creating the Impressionist Landscape." Pissarro

(1830-1903) trained in Paris under such realist masters as Corot and Courbet but eventually became associated with the Impressionists. This exhibition is comprised of more than 40 paintings. Through Sept 9.

Museum of Contemporary Art

220 E Chicago Ave at Mies van der Rohe Way (312-280-2660, mcachicago.org). El: Red to Chicago. Bus: 3, 10, 26, 66 (24hrs). 125, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 151 (24hrs). Tue 10am-8pm; Wed-Sun 10am-5pm. \$10, \$6 students and seniors, kids under 12 free.

"MCA Exposed: Defining Moments in Photography, 1967-2007." To celebrate its 40th anniversary, the MCA is putting on several shows highlighting its collection. This will be the first and it features Christian Boltanski's major installation, *Les Enfants de Dijon*, as well as images by Cindy Sherman, Andreas Gursky, Gillian Wearing and others. Through Jul 29.

"Sol LeWitt in Memoriam." Sol LeWitt created minimalist and conceptual wall drawings, prints and artist books. When he died last month, we lost one of our great modern artists. This exhibition will present a range of LeWitt's work in the collection. Through Aug 5.

Newberry Library

FREE 60 W Walton St between Dearborn and Clark Sts (312-943-9090, newberry.org). El: Red to Chicago. Bus: 22 Clark (24hrs), 70 Division. Tue-Thu 10am-6pm; Fri-Sat 9am-5pm. Gallery hours: Mon, Fri, Sat 8:15am-5:30pm; Tue-Thu 8:15am-7:30pm.

"Ballyhoo! A Peek Under the Big Top." Drawn from the Newberry's American Circus Collection, this exhibit coincides with the birthdays of P.T. Barnum and James A. Bailey and celebrates the artistry of the kind of spectacles they promoted. Through Jul 10.

Northeastern Illinois University Fine Arts Center Gallery

5500 N St. Louis Ave (773-442-4944, neu.edu). El: Blue to Belmont. Bus: 82 Kimball, 77 Belmont (24hrs).

"Stealth." Ellen Rothenberg's multimedia installation uses digital prints, bits of camouflage fabric and other materials to investigate how technology shapes our experience of geography. Through Aug 3.

Racine Art Museum

441 Main St, Racine, WI (262-638-8300, ramart.org). \$5, \$3 seniors and students, members and kids under 12 free. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm.

"Garry Knox Bennett: Call Me Chairmaker." Have a seat. California-based studio furniture artist Garry Knox Bennett won't mind—even though his chairs have been tweaked beyond the point of functionality. His 52 chairs on exhibit here are sometimes funny, and always sculptures. Through Sept 23.

Smart Museum of Art

FREE The University of Chicago, 5550 S Greenwood Ave at 55th St (773-702-0200, smart-museum.uchicago.edu). Bus: 4 Cottage Grove (24hrs), 55 Garfield (24hrs). Tue, Wed, Fri 10am-4pm; Thu 10am-8pm; Sat-Sun 11am-5pm.

"Majestic Nature/Golden History: German Romantic Art from the Crawford Collection and the Smart Museum of Art." Long before Germany

became a nation in 1871, its artists found inspiration in its wild landscape and Gothic heritage. This exhibition presents art from the resulting Romantic movement as well as the Neoclassicism it replaced. Through Oct. 21.

"Living Modern: German and Austrian Art and Design, 1890-1933." The more than 100 paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints, photographs and product designs from the museum's collection on exhibit traces the development of Modernism in Germany. Through Sept 16.

Galleries

River North

El: Brown, Purple (rush hrs) to Chicago. Bus: 29, 66 (24 hrs), 156.

Byron Roche Gallery

750 N Franklin St, suite 105, between Chicago Ave and Superior St (312-654-0144, byronroche.com). Mon-Sat 11am-6pm.

"Sandra Dawson: New Paintings." Chicago artist Sandra Dawson emphasizes text and surface detail in her mixed-media, multi-layered paintings, revealing her training as a printmaker. Through Jul 6.

David Leonardis Gallery

217 W Huron between Wells and Franklin Sts (312-863-9045, dlg-gallery.com). El: Brown, Purple (rush hour only) to Chicago. Bus: 37, 66, 125. Mon-Fri noon-6pm; Sat noon-4pm.

"Herb Nolan and Shane Swank." This show juxtaposes Chicagoan Herb Nolan's photos of jazz and blues musicians, city life and rural Mexico with pop-inspired paintings by Shane Swank. Through Jul 3.

Jean Albano Gallery

215 W Superior St between Franklin and Wells Sts (312-440-0770, jeanalbanogallery.com). Tue-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 11am-5pm.

"Glady's Nilsson: Twenty-five Years of Watercolors." Chicago Imagist Glady's Nilsson's vivid watercolors of languid ladies and domestic situations are easy to spot because she has been refining her style for more than 25 years. Through Jun 30.

Judy Saslow Gallery

300 W Superior St at Franklin St (312-943-0530, jaslowgallery.com). Tue-Sat 11am-6pm.

"Outside In." This show features metal sculptures by Clyde Angel, Dewey Blocksmas's "toys" made from found objects and Lori Field's mixed-media depictions of hybrid creatures. Through Sep 1.

Perimeter Gallery

210 W Superior St between Wells and Franklin Sts (312-266-9473, perimetergallery.com). Tue-Sat 10:30am-5:30pm.

"The Show of Shows." This overview of Perimeter's 25-year history, features reviews and projected images. Through Jul 7.



Russell Bowman Art Advisory

311 W Superior St, suite 115, at Orleans St (312-751-9500, bowmanart.com). Fri-Sat 10am-5:30pm.

"Works on Paper." Robert Mapplethorpe, Candida Höfer, Elizabeth Murray, Jim Nutt and Henry Darger are among the artists included in this powerhouse exhibition of drawings, photographs and prints. Through Aug 18.

Stephen Daiter Gallery/ Daiter Contemporary

311 W Superior St, suite 404 & 408, between Franklin and Wells Sts (312-787-3350, stephendaitergallery.com). Wed-Sat 11am-6pm.

Relative Closeness

Photographs of Family and Friends / June 15 - August 8, 2007

Opening reception Thursday June 14, 5-8pm

WORK BY:

Harry Callahan
Jen Davis
Todd Deutsch
KayLynn Deveney
Deanna Dikeman

Ben Gest
Cynthia Greig &
Richard H. Smith
Alice Hargrave

Vince Leo
Sally Mann
Hrvoje Slovinc
Aleksandra Vajd

IMAGE CREDIT: HRVOJE SLOVINC
DON PRICE AND WILKIE T. PRETORIUS, NEW YORK, NY, 2005

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Reviews

"Relative Closeness"

★★★★★ Museum of Contemporary

Photography, through Aug 8 (see Museums & Institutions).

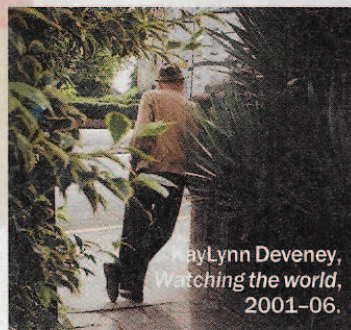
Relationships force us to feel and ask us to confront ourselves. In a show with a high cheese potential, this poignant collection confronts touchy issues without trite sentimentality.

For more than ten years, self-taught artist Harry Callahan photographed his wife and, eventually, abstracted her nude form. In *Eleanor* (1947), he whitewashes her body and zooms in on her back, buttocks and thighs to create what looks almost like a black twig against a white background.

On the homosexual end of the spectrum, Croatian artist Hrvoje Slovinc subtly approaches the politics of same-sex relationships through images inspired by static 19th-century wedding photographs of unsmiling couples in their best clothes. In *Don Price and Wilkie T. Pretorius* (2007), two older gay men sit beside one another in black suits. Though one holds a bouquet, both stare straight ahead with their hands clasped in their laps. Slovinc's cautious yet powerful message seeps into viewers' minds: Queer people exist in a society that discourages them from openly expressing emotion, let alone marrying.

In Jen Davis's work, the artist turns the camera on her obese body. In *Untitled no. 15*, morning light illuminates her face and torso while blue light streams in through another window. Wearing loose black clothing, she confronts herself in front of the camera without pity or self-deprecation.

These honest, emotional images should connect with anyone who drops in on MoCP's show.—*Alicia Eler*



RayLynn Deveney,
Watching the world,
2001-06.

Time Out

Chicago

As featured in *Time Out* July 5 – July 11, 2007

Art & Design

"Relative Closeness"

Museum of Contemporary Photography, through Aug 8
(see Museums & Institutions).

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