

Bamboo Lane / Revisited
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Chinatown
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For your Consideration & Immediate Release

Main Gallery : “Pattern” April 30 – June 4, 2005 ** (seepage2)

3 artists interpret literal & conceptual pattern.

Fumiko Amano Michiko Yao Jessica Robbins

Skylight Room: “More Patterns” – coinciding group show

Reception for the artists: APRIL 30th Saturday 7 – 10 pm

There is a common thread that moves through the work of these three artists to bring the flow of the exhibit full circle in concept & in representation. One focuses on line, the purpose of line & the function of the narrative represented. The second begins with the function of the narrative, then the purpose of the process. The third focuses on the purpose of the process & the focus of the lines/shapes.

Michiko Yao has been developing a Paint –by – number concept to its’ full capacity. Comprised of intricate lines with assigned numbers & no color, the viewer is left to interpret what the final outcome of color would be if the piece were to be filled in. In this new body of work she has personalized the imagery to include interpretations taken from childhood photographs in which she is dressed as a Geisha, or is playing with dolls. The manner in which her work is rendered, using a painstaking & intricate process of tiny lines, emphasizes the importance of calligraphy & the brushstrokes found in traditional Japanese paintings. The concept goes further to formalize this aspect of her Japanese heritage & her role as an artist. The imagery is symbolic of the roles that Japanese girls are taught to reinforce the social patterns expected of them.

Fumiko Amano also brings her Japanese memories to the surface in her new abstracted body of work reminiscent of cherry blossoms in Kyoto spring. Her work is a reflection of idealistic patterns of thoughts – a poetic haiku, so to speak, of fragments that together create a larger memory. Each piece is done in succession with the other. All panels are laid out at once & painted in layers upon layers. Unlike Michiko’s work which is 2 dimensional & focused on line interaction, Amano’s process is about layering color, shapes & very subtle patterns one on top of the other. This new work results in a soft & feminine intricacy that is indicative of her Japanese traditions, but with expression brought to the surface by her relaxed process.

Jessica Robbins’ work brings the concept of the entire show runs in full circle, beginning where Amano’s process leaves off & Yao’s process begins. Robbins’ new work are developed simultaneously to reinforce the purpose of shapes, color & manner of material application as a process with pattern. All is planned & executed in a matter-of-fact way, back around to the importance of line, or in her case, the importance of each carefully placed shape. Each piece of the pattern puzzle has a purpose to remind the viewer of the repetition of elements, devoid of concept, thus opening interpretation for the viewer.

Fumiko Anamo is an active participant in the Los Angeles Downtown Gallery Row organization & one of the founding members of Pharmaka, a collective art organization & gallery. Born in Tokyo, she has been an important asset to the Los Angeles art scene for many years. Her work has been exhibited nationally & locally, including Santa Monica Museum of Art.

Michiko Yao is a juried member of Los Angeles Art Association. Her work was recently featured in “New American Paintings” west coast edition, January 2005. She has been reviewed in Artweek, Artscene & several other publications. Originally from Osaka, she once lived in Los Angeles, then went back to Japan & returned here in 2002 to obtain her MFA at Cal Arts. She is the recipient of the Stratton Petit Sosin Mentor Award & her work is in several private collections.

Jessica Robbins hails from Massachusetts. Her work has been exhibited in Los Angeles, New York & Boston, among others. Her work can be found in several private collections & commissions for the film industry. She is also a juried member of the LACMA sales & rental gallery.

******This show is in conjunction with Project by Project for CAST. Project by Project is a non-profit organization that sponsors & promotes a different worthy cause each year. This year their beneficiary is CAST – The Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking. 80% of the people that CAST helps are women who have been brought to this country under false pretense. Many work in the garment industry or escort services.

Bamboo Lane / Revisited will be donating partial proceeds of all art sales in the gallery for duration of the exhibit to benefit CAST.

For this exhibit, the artists were given the word “pattern” & some prompts relating to; patterns for sewing, patterns in social events or conversation, patterns in our surroundings...then left to create a new body of work with “pattern” in mind. The serendipity of curation lies within inviting these three artists to participate in the show & watching the unintentional synchronicity of the collective unconscious, resulting in a challenging exhibit with a common thread running through it (no pun intended). – Leora Lutz, Gallery Director.

Bamboo Lane / Revisited is located in Chinatown. We are on Bamboo Lane, a street alley North of College, East of Broadway. North on Broadway, pass College, make a left at the Phoenix Bakery Parking lot. Walk _ way down – we are on your left....Big green building. 213.620.1188