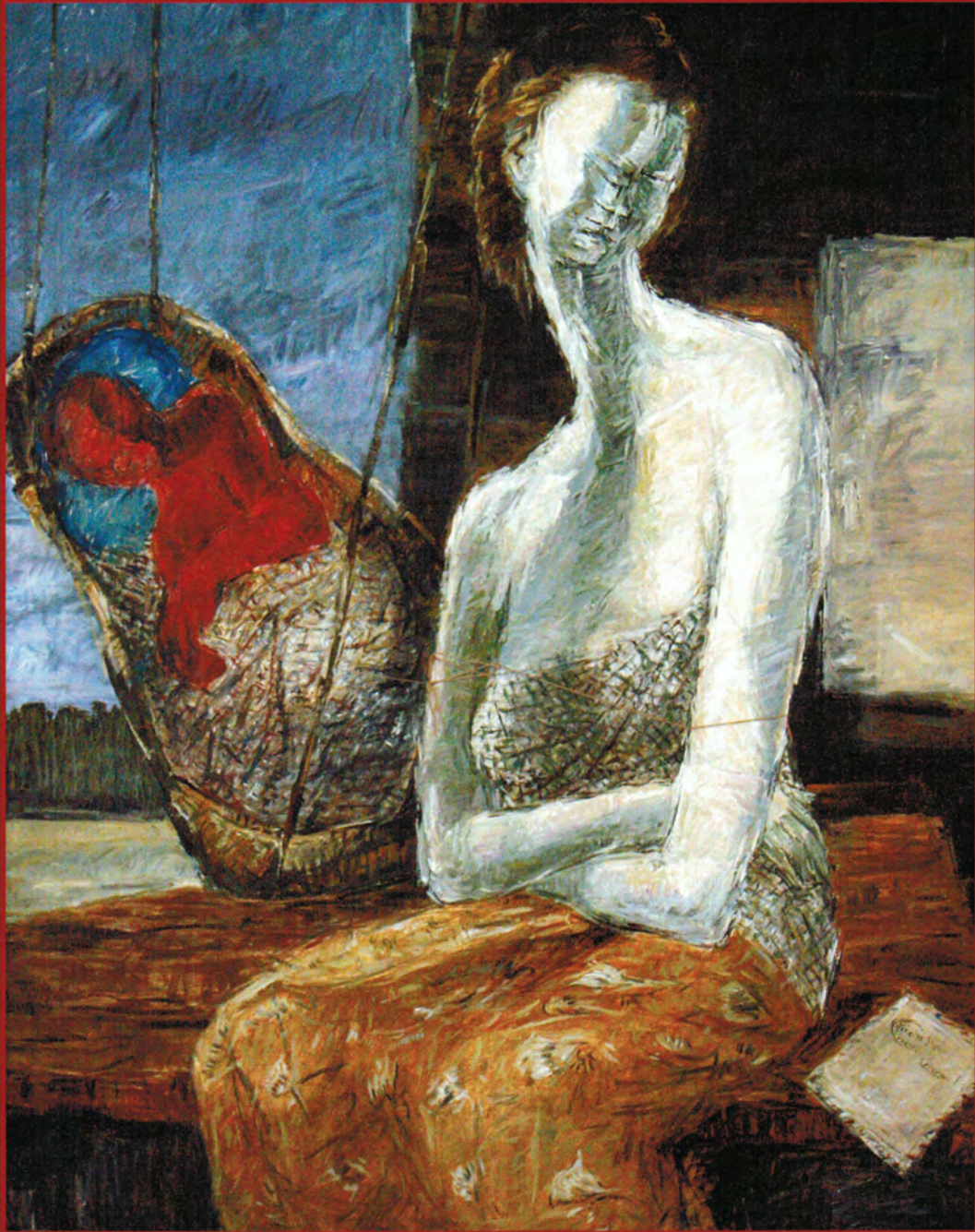


I HAVE THE RIGHT

presented by PICTURE Art Foundation

NOV 2011

FEATURING THE PAINTINGS OF YOU KHIN



PICTURE

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Michael Johnson – President, PICTURE Art Foundation

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California State University, Dominguez Hills

Van Cleve Fine Art

Graphic Design

Jason Yarbrough

Printing

Columbia Printing

Artwork Descriptions and Artist Biographies

Submitting Artists

Editors

Jose Lopez

Maria Rasmussen

Liz Moran

James Scarborough

Cover Images

Front cover "Woman with a Red Baby" by You Khin

Back cover "Afghan Children" by Miguel Angel Lozano Bonora

PICTURE Cultural Art



EXHIBIT MISSION

I HAVE THE RIGHT

The struggle for and celebration of Human Rights are universal knowing no geographic nor cultural boundaries.

Our exhibit; "I Have the Right" highlights the Human Rights challenges and successes by showcasing the unique interpretations of the subject by artists from different cultures. The exhibit includes art that addresses:

THE RIGHT **TO BE FREE**

from oppression, to choose my leaders, to worship openly, to live in peace and to get an education

THE RIGHT **TO EXPRESS MYSELF**

speak freely, be myself and to create

THE RIGHT **TO DREAM**

anything is possible, war can end, hunger can be eliminated

THE RIGHT **TO LOVE**

myself and the person I choose

EXHIBIT MISSION

The exhibit is anchored by the first showing of selected paintings by You Khin, a Cambodian artist who captured the destruction of his beloved homeland at the hands of the Khmer Rouge and its eventual rebirth on his canvases.

The response to this exhibit from artists has been overwhelming. It is clear that these are the tough questions we must continue to ask one another ensuring that we never stop challenging one another to solve the human rights issues that surround us and our fellow citizens around the world.

The exhibit is shown at PICTURE Cultural Art, our exhibit space on the campus of California State University, Dominguez Hills in Carson, California.

AWARD WINNERS

YOU KHIN COLLECTION LOANED BY THE FAMILY OF YOU KHIN
BEST OF SHOW



Represented by Van Cleve Fine Art

UNTITLED - NIGHTMARE OF AN ARTIST — oil on canvas, mounted on board

This androgynous, animalistic boogey-man represents the horrors of war that Khin was born into and lived through. A boy, perhaps Khin himself, confronts the face of war with a red lock on his back, symbolizing the reason why he was locked out of his own country. This personification of political strife is supplemented by the colors of both the American and French flag, commenting on the repercussions of foreign involvement.

AWARD WINNERS

MUOY KHIN

I HAVE THE RIGHT

An obvious statement now, but when Khin and I grew up, the only right we had was to remain silent. We were vaguely aware something was wrong but could not say what. How could we? Life was hard for both of us. Khin was born to parents who were farmers and I was the daughter of a family defined as the urban poor. We belonged to the silent majority who were told not to think but to accept and conform. Little by little, voices of dissent started to be heard within the country. Around us, in Vietnam, in distant China, war and revolution started to drum up and both would sweep over and into Cambodia. On 17th April 1975, the Khmer Rouge took power and Cambodia descended into hell.

Destiny and education saved us. We were given a scholarship from the French Government and both made it to France, one year apart. We met on top of the Eiffel Tower on a December night in 1973 and from then on I was witness to Khin's artistic thoughts and moods. Before 1975, his paintings were what one would expect from a Khmer artist, figurative and descriptive with a touch of glamor. Portraits of traditional dancers with rich costumes, girls with graceful poses and colorful outfits were his favorite subjects. Then, 17th April 1975 happened and everything changed. Before anyone suspected the terrible things that would happen in Cambodia, Khin had a premonition. In his 1975 painting "Chinese Man and the Cambodian Soup", he foresaw how the Cultural Revolution in China would descend into Cambodia. It would be more radical than anything history had witnessed and sweep everything in its way.

Khin and I married during this time and started our family. When we left the comfort of France for Sudan, a country totally unknown to us, the shock was enormous. Everything was different, the way people talked, moved, dressed, and worshipped. With a few brushes and tubes of paint given by a friend, Khin started to capture scenes of the Sudanese markets and streets, creating a style of painting that was totally new for him. He would go and explore the common humanity with complicity and a discreet sense of humor. Even as he painted scenes of the life that surrounded him, the war and our exile brought him back to the reality of our country and our personal tragedy. Then he would see the dark side of our world and his work would express his secret revolt and become more conceptual and symbolic. Women, their condition and their dreams became a recurring topic.

Khin's last words were, "For the world to see into our house, there needs to be a light inside, we need to light candles."

His work is the one candle Khin lit for Cambodia. Thank you for giving him the opportunity to shine and please visit our house.



UNTITLED – WOMAN DREAMING, SITTING ON BOOKS — oil, strings on canvas

We can fulfill our dreams and have the looming threat of Communism put to rest by tying ourselves to learning. The rising moon of hope over the future of Cambodia is in the education of the next generation of children. Commit to learning and you commit to a peaceful life.

AWARD WINNERS



FREEDOM

SIMON RAAB Gandhi Abused

One of the historically most significant nonviolent battles for freedom from oppression was "fought" by Mahatma Gandhi. It was and is significant as a pacifist's war against oppression and pioneered resistance to tyranny through mass civil disobedience. This battle was fought in South Africa the home of apartheid and in India against British rule. The concept that humans should be allowed to live free of tyranny and oppression is fundamental. Unfortunately, seeking such freedom has been more often gained through violent resistance.

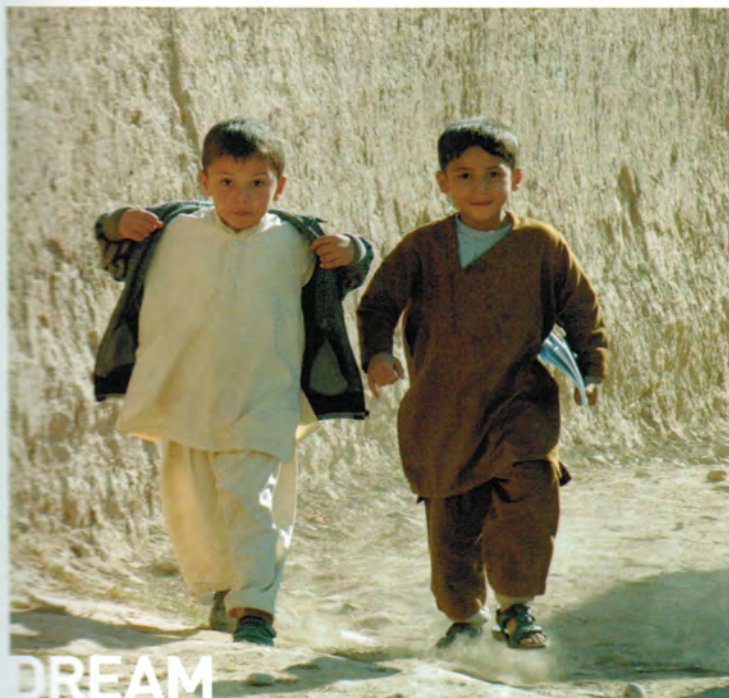


EXPRESSION

GODFREY MAWEMA Obedient Workers

In the modern world corporations dictate the everyday lives of people, often unknowingly conforming people into buying items they don't need with money they don't have. Slowly people lose their rights their forefathers fought for: accepting lower pay, less hours, and no medical insurance. This makes people take matters into their own hands; however, their hands only know violence in a state of frustration.

AWARD WINNERS



DREAM

MIGUEL ANGEL LOZANO BONORA Afghan Children

Almost 30 years of conflict have forced millions of Afghan children to remain uneducated and work to help support their families. Childhood in Afghanistan is a challenge to survive permanently. Health, nutrition, and education are rare to be considered priorities for the children. So children are forced to work from a very early age. In this short documentary, I wanted to reflect the brief moments when a simple gesture and a smile are enough to remind us that children are a fundamental part of our humanity.



LOVE

EDUARDO ZERMENO Rick Lovin'

My paintings are made to address issues of Masculinity and the intersectionality of gender and sexual identity within contemporary Western Culture. What I aim to do is question and in the process deconstruct oppressive notions surrounding our understanding of Masculinity and masculine expression. In particular, I aim to address the stigmatization of effeminate gay within our society. My drawings and paintings read that way, they are made with strong, furtive actions, then gradually refined, softened, and made to project a voice and pain that grows and stresses from the deepest innards of my body and soul. I have the right to be free of prejudice and oppression; I have the right to express my identity however I please; I have the right to love whomever I want. And it's your job to remember that.

ARTIST INFORMATION

DANILO PENA

Danilo Pena was born on September 17, 1985 in the Dominican Republic. Pena received his artistic education beginning in 2002 from visiting various art studios and workshops from local artists. He attended Escuela de Bellas Artes de Santiago (Santiago Fine Arts School), and currently is receiving additional orientations from various artist. He is also a member of Grupo Primarios (Group of local visual artists) in San Víctor, Moca, Dominican Republic, where he currently lives.

ANN PHONG

Ann Phong was born in Saigon. In 1981 she had a chance to escape Vietnam by boat. After a year of living in refugee camps in Malaysia and the Philippines, Phong settled in Southern California. In 1995, Ann received her Master of Fine Art degree from California State University, Fullerton, and has actively participated in more than 60 solo and group shows in galleries and museums. Ann's work has been widely exhibited in Los Angeles, Orange County, San Jose, Oakland, San Francisco, Houston, Vancouver, Paris, Thailand, and as far as Japan.

Since 2007, Phong has been invited by the College Board /Education Testing Center as one of the readers for AP Studio Art for high school students and Praxis Art for teaching credential program. She has also been invited to speak by many high schools, colleges, universities, galleries and museums on the subject of her own work and work of other Vietnamese American artists.

Currently Phong teaches art at Cal Poly Pomona University.

ALINA POROSHINA

Alina Poroshina is a New York based artist. She was born in Moscow, Russia and came to Lansing, Michigan with her family at the age of 10 as a refugee. This transition had a profound influence on her as an individual and an artist. Alina earned BFA in Painting (major) and Illustration (minor) from Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University in 2005. In 2007 she earned MFA in Studio Art from Kendall College of Art and Design, attending graduate program on a merit scholarship.

Alina discovered a passion for figurative paintings and developed a style that she describes as Expressive Realism. Alina's works are held in private and public collections.

SIMON RAAB

Simon Raab was born in Toulouse, France. He received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from McGill University, Montreal, Canada.

Simon Raab blurs the border that separates painting from sculpture. Over the course of the years he has created an exciting body of work ranging from figurative to abstract, all of which make light the protagonist of his art. To describe his redefine assemblies of material and colour, he coined the name "Parleau". Amalgamating the French words par ("through") and l'eau ("the water"), the term suggests the seductive quality of light passing though liquid. Simon Raab creates his relief-like and voluminous images—wall works and sculptures—in an intricate, almost alchemical working process that proves to be a concentrated balancing of calculation and improvisation.

TANYA RAGIR

Tanya Ragir is a figurative sculptor who works in a variety of media, including bronze resin and clay. Much of the work is inspired by the sensual relationship between landforms and human forms. By framing details of the figure, then changing the scale, the allegory becomes apparent.

Tanya received a B.A. in sculpture and Dance from the University of California at Santa Cruz in 1976. Her work has received numerous awards, has been featured in film and television productions, and has been collected internationally.

Museums and collectors include Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Art and Architecture Special Project, Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation, Los Angeles. She has also been featured in the Los Angeles Times and the Smithsonian Magazine.

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