

apexart

The Periphereterists curated by Jocko Weyland

On view: June 1 - July 30, 2011

Opening reception:
Wed, June 1: 6-8 pm



James Niehues, *Heavenly's Nevada Side*, 1999

Featuring work by:

Nicole Andrews Brandes, Natascha Belt, Dave Bevan, Dwayne Boone, Gerardo Castillo, Rick Charnoski, Edward Colver, Ale Formenti, Renée French, Joseph Griffith, Thomas Hauser, Mark Hubbard, Chuckie Johnson, Gary Kachadourian, Taliah Lempert, Doug Magnuson, Alfredo Martinez, William McCurtin, Stu Mead, James Niehues, Gloria Park, Daniel Pineda, Randy Turner, Dennis Tyfus, Unidentified Cameroonian barbershop painters, Sereno Wilson, Jesse Wines, Jason Wright

Tony Bennett unsuspectingly coined a new term of surprising relevance when he once said he liked what Oskar Kokoschka did "along the peripheter." Though meaning the perimeter and periphery in the painting itself, he innocently zeroed in on a murky netherworld away from the formal where success and failure, acceptance and indifference, and Tony Bennett and Oskar Kokoschka meet. Like these two disparate personalities, the artists in *The Periphereterists* elude the standard definition of outsiders to form a diverse and unaligned but oddly complimentary non-scene that doesn't really register with either the hoi polloi or the intelligentsia. In many cases low-key and unsung though prodigiously gifted, all are fairly unconcerned with and unknown in that rarely satisfying milieu known as "The Art World."

The Periphereterists examines the wide-ranging connections, affinities, and allusions amongst works that possess the popular appeal often absent at the typical white cube. That luck, social standing, ladder climbing, and a multitude of other variables determine who gets fêted is not news by any means, but it does give rise to an urge to address that vexing situation with a gathering of mostly uncelebrated rare birds. A few encounters amongst many will have Mark Hubbard's fantastical diagrams for actual skateparks, Gloria T. Park's expressionist wig designs, and Jim Nieuhues' paintings that are the basis for ski area maps consorting with Sereno Wilson's glittery Nubian goddesses, Nicole Andrews' paper cutouts of ennui-suffused suburbanites, and Stu Mead's poignant, troubling, and very funny depiction of sexually active adolescents. This is not a polemic but an excursion into parallel realm of wonderful art that combines the fiercely individualistic and unorthodox with the accessible, and brings up old-fashioned but eternal questions about what art is and why people bother.

Jocko Weyland is the author of *The Answer is Never - A Skateboarder's History of the World* (Grove Press, 2002) and has written for *Thrasher*, *The New York Times*, *Cabinet*, *Apartmento* and other publications, as well as the creator of Elk magazine, books and gallery.

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