



Artists

or

THE TITLE OF GRAHAM CALDWELL'S GLASS INSTALLATION, "FOVEA" (DETAIL), REFERS TO A SMALL AREA OF THE EYE'S RETINA THAT ASSURES ACUTE VISION.

Prices for blockbuster art are soaring. No wonder collectors are in a quandary, wondering what the next art wave will be—and how they can catch it while prices are still within their reach. Here are seven artists to watch. All live, work and exhibit in New York City, and all are poised to take center stage. Typically, when contemporary artists experiment with traditional media, the result can be tongue-in-cheek and ironic. However, these artists create serious works that are both powerful and deeply personal, and they do so with integrity, bringing a fresh, intelligent approach to their expression.

BY RON SHIPMON

the Verge

GRAHAM CALDWELL

Caldwell's sculptural blown-glass installations make demands on the viewer that go beyond the purely tactile pleasure they immediately elicit. Often idiosyncratic, his sculpture preoccupies itself with the nature of looking and of sight, where glass stands in for the human eye. "Looking and seeing can be extended by the telescope and microscope into the vast dark past of space and into the ferocious world of the microscopic," proclaims this graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design. By often enclosing liquid in thick transparent glass, he heightens reality, creating convex mirrors and lenses that multiply as they reflect. The work is at once recognition and distortion. Caldwell has exhibited in the windows of New York University and Bergdorf Goodman.

TOMÁS RIVAS While participating in an excavation at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece, Rivas perfected his skill for creating two- and three-dimensional contemporary wall carvings that hark back to classical architecture. While he often chisels marble, Rivas also manipulates more mundane materials, such as cardboard, lard and thread. He gouges gypsum drywall with swift, clean strokes of the knife, ornamentally defining space as it relates to power, politics, society and religion in Western culture. He shows in the annual Scope New York art fair.



ABOVE: TOMÁS RIVAS, "TALLADA LA COLUMNA" (DETAIL), 2007, CARVING ON DRYWALL. BELOW: JIHA MOON, "MR. DHARMA & HIS POSSE," 2007, INK AND ACRYLIC ON PAPER OVER CANVAS.



ARTISTS ON THE VERGE



JIHA MOON Moon's brilliantly colored abstract paintings and drawings explore the differences between her native country, Korea, and her adopted homeland, the United States, and document her memories as well as her experiences. The complex geographical dialogue embraces flora, fauna and weather motifs into which the artist weaves oblique references to folk narratives and pop culture. Moon, whose work hangs in the collection of the Asia Society, is represented by the Moti Hasson Gallery in Chelsea.

PIERRE ST. JACQUES Using an abrupt editing technique, St. Jacques' videos overlay multiple static images. The result is both abstract and figurative—a narrative that focuses on those moments when an emotion crystallizes on screen. His videos also investigate how short loops of sound create a stillness that can be perceived as continuous motion. The Safe-T and Chashama galleries have featured works by St. Jacques.



LEFT: SHEILA GOLOBOROTKO, "DIAMOND," 2007, MARBLE DUST AND OIL PAINT ON CANVAS. FAR LEFT: A STILL FROM "CANON," 2002-2003, A TWO-MINUTE VIDEO BY PIERRE ST. JACQUES.

SHEILA GOLOBOROTKO

The Brooklyn-based, eco-aware artist's mixed-media works are repositories for sensations and items, both old and new, from her life as a painter, printmaker, sculptor and set designer. Her degree is in architecture; her interest is archaeology. These disciplines inform her constructions, in which the process of literally digging for materials, such as sand, is fundamental. These richly textured works are nevertheless light and airy, possessed of an unearthly delicacy. Goloborotko's studio in DUMBO, Brooklyn, is also her gallery.

EDWARD DEL ROSARIO

Del Rosario's diminutive gouache drawings, hand-colored etchings and oil paintings spin provocative tales in which the figurative artist and master draftsman explores a multitude of themes, including isolation—in particular—the isolation he experienced as a Filipino growing up in a mostly white suburb of St. Louis, Mo. His finely nuanced figures are invariably set against blank backgrounds. The Nancy Margolis Gallery and Gallery 10G have exhibited his work; recent prints are on view and available for purchase at the Lowe East Side Printshop.

Whatever the current trend, the judicious collector buys works of art that he believes will have historical importance. Above all, he buys works that he can live with and enjoy.

ROZ DIMON This digital artist "paints" with new media. Employing the Internet, she creates Dimonscapes: works of art that exist on two levels: the real (hanging on the wall as a limited-edition print) and the virtual (interactive on the Web). The thought-provoking images can be accessed by clicking dimonscapes.com.

RIGHT: EDWARD DEL ROSARIO, "ANNUNCIATIONS I," 2005, OIL ON LINEN. FAR RIGHT: "PALE MALE: A PILGRIMAGE," 2005-2006, ROZ DIMON'S DIGITAL STORY AND RESPONSE TO THE TERRORIST ATTACKS OF SEPT. 11, 2001.

