

LINES DRAWN

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America's artists look beyond
the politics of Red and Blue

☆ FOR DEMOCRATS ONLY ☆

Say one nice thing
about **REPUBLICANS**
(and really mean it).

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Say one nice thing
about **DEMOCRATS**
(and really mean it).

In August 2014, the gallery issued an ‘open call’
for art that provides visual evidence of issues

which the artists believe are being
ignored or “inadequately addressed”
by the White House and Congress
due to the extreme partisanship
evident in Washington today.

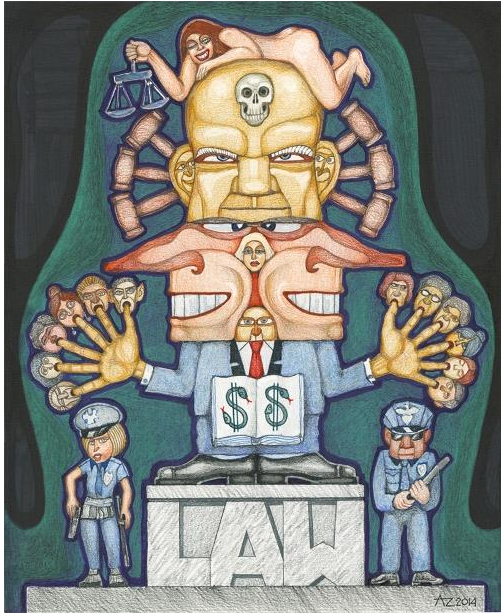
A three person jury selected 61 works of art by 19 artists resident
in the United States for this exhibit: **LINES DRAWN: America’s Artists Look
Beyond the Politics of Red and Blue.** The issues of concern range from
plastic waste dumped in the ocean to abuse of the elderly and the homeless.

This is the *fine art* of social and political change.

*The gallery wishes to thank Alexssa Todd and Phillip Barlow
for helping to select the work currently on display and
all the artists
who submitted their work for consideration.*

CHARLES KRAUSE **REPORTING FINE ART**

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ANATOL ZUKERMAN

Law and Order (mixed medium, 14"x 17") 2014

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: My work "Law and Order" reflects many Americans' and my own experience in the courts of law. I have personally known lawyers who overtly told me: "How much justice can you afford today, Anatol?" and "Our law is not justice, Anatol!" If the American jurisprudence serves no justice then America is in deep trouble. No wonder people tell so many sarcastic jokes about lawyers and judges.



DARA HERMAN ZIERLEIN

Baby New Years Plastic World (watercolor on Arches paper, 22" x 24") 2013

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: This painting is about plastic waste found in the bellies of birds (Albatross colonies off the N. Pacific coast) and just a small sign into the future of mankind. Scores of deceased birds, their skeletal remains revealing heaps of indigestible plastic scraps as probable cause of death are found 200 miles away from any human civilization. Our carelessly discarded plastic travels everywhere and the manufactories need to be held responsible for plastic waste.

More Laws need to be made to restrict the fishery business from raping our oceans, fracking for oil & gases needs to stop, agriculture & meat industry, the over production of meat & soy are making our natural resources wastelands. These companies should be paying the cost to reverse the damage made to the planet's oceans and the government needs to stop allowing mass production from entering our country.



ANNIE BISSETT

Secret Code Words of the NSA (woodcut, 6" x 6" each, set of 26 sold separately or as a complete set) 2013

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: In November 2013, I read an article in the *NY Times* that mentioned a few code words that the NSA uses to identify its various operations and information-gathering techniques. Many of the code words, such as 'dishfire,' conjured up visual images and begged to be illustrated. I did some internet sleuthing and discovered a treasure trove of over 400 NSA code words to work from, many culled from the documents leaked by Edward Snowden. I decided to illustrate 26 of these code words, one for each letter of the alphabet. Since 9/11, in the name of safety and national security, our government has created the infrastructure for a police state, including a shadow court system (the FISA court) and secret interpretations of laws to justify surveillance. Many American citizens are unaware of this shadow government and its secret laws, so I offer this educational primer to help us become NSA-literate.

DAVID ROBERT KAMM

.40 Caliber Safety Crayons (mixed medium, 6" x 8" x 1") 2013

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: It seems we have drawn a line around the 2nd amendment that prevents any sort of rational debate to help us reconsider the role of guns in America. Too many politicians on both sides of the aisle are unwilling to seriously take on this issue for fear of losing the next election. Instead, they are apparently willing to continue sacrificing thousands of citizens each year in order to appease the gun lobby. This piece was created in response to the Sandy Hook Elementary shootings. The crayons represent children destroyed by gun violence. The .40 caliber shell casings that cap the crayons speak for themselves.

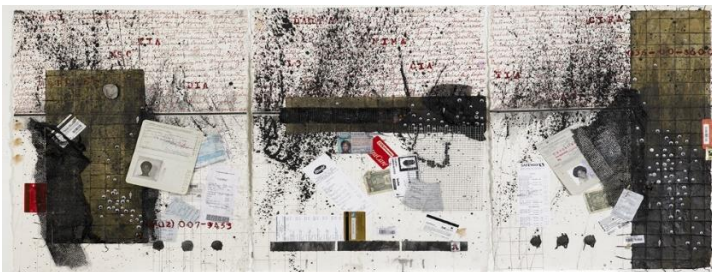




DONNA FESTA

Injured woman and *Man with one eye* (oil on panel, 6" x 6" each) 2013/14

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: Our culture does not see or value our elders. We put them away in places intended for gentle care and healing but too often the opposite occurs. In these two portraits, *Man with One Eye*, and *Injured Woman*, I show the viewer just a glimpse of what these beautiful people may endure while they are tucked away from sight. End of life issues are seldom spoken of. Elder abuse is rarely a subject raised above a whisper. Let our grandmothers, grandfathers, mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, brothers and sisters, our neighbors and friends have a voice. Don't take their dignity. Value them. Love them. Truly care for them. Work to stop elder abuse.



CLAUDIA GIBSON-HUNTER

Information Signature (mixed media, triptych, 40.5" x 32.5" each panel) 2008

"How do you make art out of information that most people would rather ignore?" Alfredo Jaar

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: The American public is being watched. Who is gathering this information and for what uses will it be utilized? This piece examines the undercutting of the privacy of the American citizen, for not only is this information mined for the global corporate community, but for the increasingly militarized domestic government.¹ President Dwight D. Eisenhower, in his farewell address to the nation (1961) spoke of a "military-industrial complex" and the possibility of the country becoming "ruled by a scientific-technological elite". Today we may be experiencing the integration of the two, combined with the greed and aspirations of self-serving multinational corporations, forming an entity that even Mr. Eisenhower would be pressed to phantom.



Choice



HERNANDO RICO SANCHEZ

Collateral...and Choice (mixed media, 74" x 18.5" x 20" and 37" x 31" x 8")

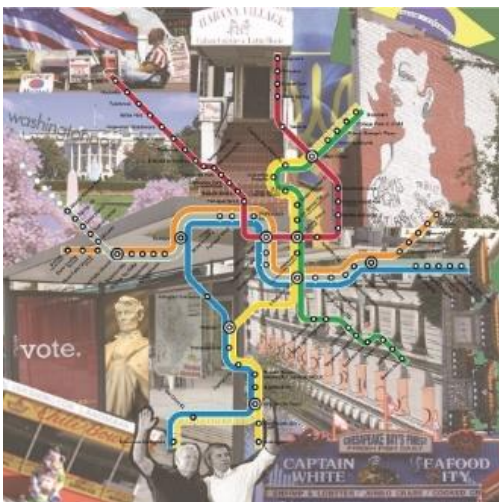
ARTIST'S STATEMENT: This particular artwork can be seen as a protest, a portrait of realities that capture a moment of social struggle, like the constant attack on women's right to choose by the religious political machinery. Or the constant political pressure to engage in military actions, ignoring the collateral damage of war and the pain that conflicts inflict over our societies. Violence doesn't finish at the end of a war, the consequences will follow...in our social behavior and our way of thinking, therefore our current political position and actions ...are nothing more that the prolongation of future conflicts.



JULIA KIM SMITH, DAVID BEAUDOIN, FRANCESCA DANIELI

One Nice Thing (video art) 2004-2014

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: Shot at the epicenter of the most rancorous American presidential election in decades, *One Nice Thing* asked a single question—was it possible for participants at the 2004 Democratic and Republican National Conventions to say one nice thing about the opposition, and really mean it. From high-profile political leaders to small-town delegates, their answers will delight, infuriate and move you, by turns, revealing a much deeper truth about our shared political psyche than you might imagine. Today, as America heads toward the 2016 presidential election, *One Nice Thing* [provides]... insight into the human dimension of American politics. [Washington Premiere](#)



NATALIA

All Lines (print on canvas, 24" x 24"), 2014

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: You are viewing a digital collage devoted to Washington DC and the evolution of DC Metro, a rail system that connects thousands of people daily. The DC Metro Series brings together the images that define the local, everyday movement of Washingtonians with greater concepts of growth, evolution, and change. It challenges the viewer to think about a variety of social and political issues like voting rights, DC politics and global development, to name a few.

AARON BOWLES

Change Today? (assemblage, neon lettering and cardboard box, 9" x 41.5" x 26") 2009

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: Situated at the bottom of an empty flat screen television box, the neon text "Change Today?" refers to the 1984 release from the hardcore/punk rock group T.S.O.L. that addressed such issues as social conformity, the Cold War, and a pre-9/11 America that sacrifices the lives of its soldiers in foreign lands for financial prosperity so that one can consume and live in comfort...What does "change" really mean and are Americans willing to curtail their desires of personal consumption for the ideal of "change?"

LOUIS NIEVES

King Kong ain't got nothing on me (oil on board, 36" x 48") 2011

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: The artwork featured here addresses an apparently freedom-loving leader who, on the one hand, says he's not like the others and touts democracy but, at the same time, pushes the envelope when it comes to Presidential powers and autocrat agendas. The future of our country is defended in The Constitution. Hence a three branch Government. The signers of this document had these in mind. No one branch is sovereign.

F. LENNOX CAMPELLO

Obama as Atlas (charcoal and conte on paper, 26" x 22" framed) 2008-14

It has been said that the "road to hell is paved with good intentions," and as we see an Imperial Presidency expanded by an American President whom many believed to be a different kind of politician, but who ended up being not just another politician, but one who has alienated both his once ebullient far left supporters and his right wing critics, we must ask the question about the legacy of a historical President overwhelmed by perhaps "good intentions" in a world submerged in harsh realities, political scandals, broken promises, war and barbaric enemies.

This drawing started in 2008 with "good intentions." It showed our President holding up the heavens with some real problems that he needed to solve... Over the years I've been "adding" to the weight of the heavens as new problems, issues and scandals emerge and add to the overwhelming weight of the Presidency.



JEANIE NEYER

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: They are old and young, alone or in groups, hungry, disease-ridden, filthy, smelly, exhausted, frightened. In a society that has neither time, interest or compassion for them. Unfortunately, for most, they are an inconvenience and an eyesore.



Homeless (oil pastel on board, 40" x 30")



Rummaging (oil pastel on paper, 17" x 14")



Burdens (charcoal and pastel on paper, 27" x 19")



A Face in the Crowd (charcoal and acrylic, 36" x 24") 2014

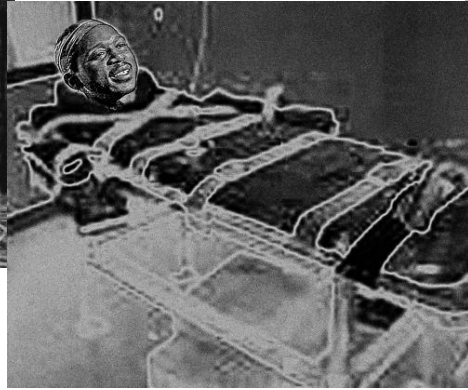


Homeless study (10" x 10")

Jesse Tasfero



Jesse Tesfaro



Larry Griffin



Marvin Wilson

JEAN MARIE GUYAUX Chill series appropriated photographs (20" x 24") 2014

Justice rendered or barbarism in the name of closure?

When the last breath of air has been taken away words like guilty or innocent are superfluous. Postmortem some will be assumed innocent others pardoned or even... exonerated. These visuals are manipulated images extracted from public domains rarely visited since they catalog snapshots of the disturbing real estate of death and their tenants. Otherworldly portraits of the departed hover like spirits bringing back a human face to the execution process.

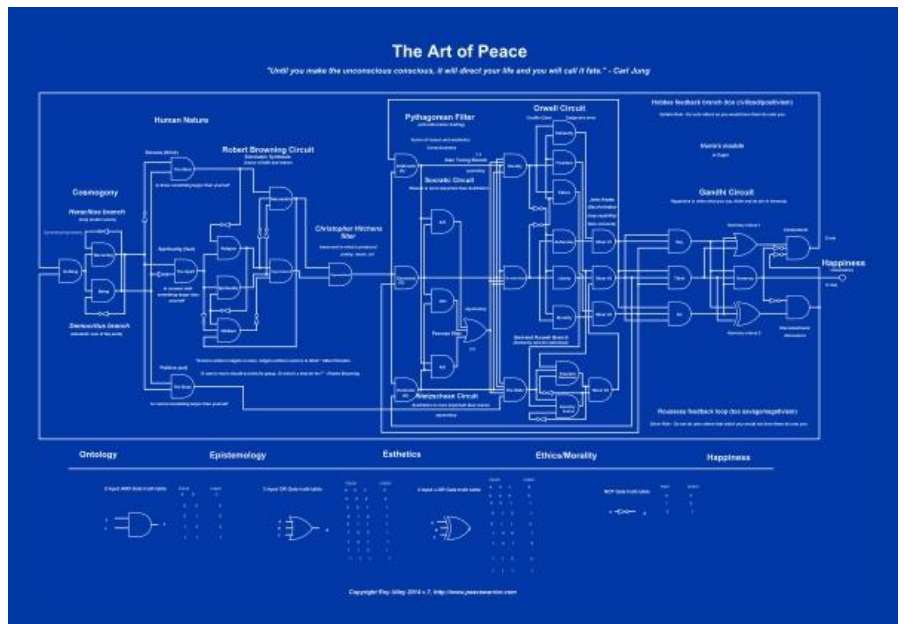
As a Belgian transplant to the US I always felt uneasy about its sanctioning of the death penalty, a method of ultimate punishment only practiced by countries mostly labeled as repressive by the American government. I realized that I had moved to a country where under the umbrella of general principles of conduct referred to as the Constitution thrives a hodge-podge of fiefdoms or states with their own capricious rules.

China (2.000+), Iran (314+), North Korea (30+), USA (43), Saudi Arabia (79+), Iraq (129+)

ROY UTLEY

The Art of Peace (digital print, 2' x 3')

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: The "Art of Peace" is the foundation for a cultural revolution by aiding in our political and religious depolarization, encouraging open debate with a consistent lexicon and providing a seed for a new art movement. It is a worldview system map fashioned as a digital logic circuit with feedback loops. It demonstrates a systemic approach to peace-building and conflict resolution theory and practice, critical thinking and positive psychology to shift our culture of war to a culture of peace. With it we can create a force that will transform our culture of war to a culture of peace by building a world where hatred, apathy and division is a thing of the past. A world where those tools of control and destruction are neutralized to reveal the beauty of a humanity that has found its common sense.



KATHLEEN RAMICH

Tea Party Tool Kit (assemblage) 2014

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: The Tea Party, funded by the Koch Brothers, is using every trick in their toolkit to persuade Americans that Government is worthless, that we'd all be better with nothing than something. They've even managed to convince a lot of lower income people that the health care they're now eligible for is a *bad* idea. But the Koch Brothers are Robber Barons, not Robin Hoods; they're the only ones who'll benefit if the Tea Party becomes stronger as a result of the coming election.

Tea for Two: The Koch Brothers' Legacy (assemblage) 2014

ARTIST'S STATEMENT:

Sung with feeling:

*"Oh, Brother,
Tea for Two, and Two for Tea,
The House for you, the Senate for me;
Just me for you and you for me alone..."*

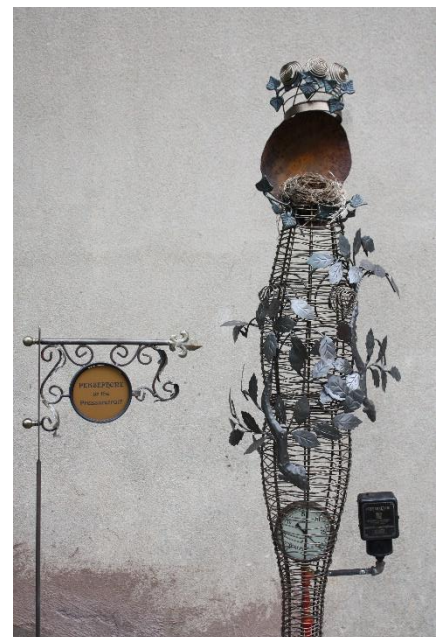
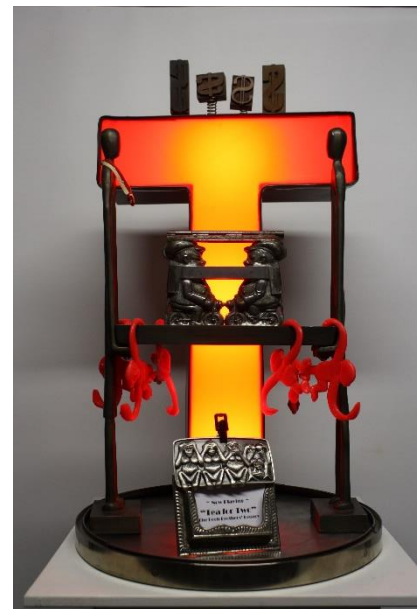
The Koch Brothers have created their own political movement to serve their own political ends, which are to rid themselves and their companies of government regulation and the need to pay taxes. They've fooled a lot of Americans about what the Tea Party really stands for and who will benefit if it holds the balance of power in Congress after next month's election. They'll be singing "Tea for Two" all the way to the bank.

Persephone or the Pressuretrol? (assemblage) 2014

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: Here stands Persephone, whose abduction by Hades, god of the underworld, was believed to have precipitated the change of seasons. Her grieved mother, so the tale goes, allowed the vegetation on earth to wither and die during the winter months of Persephone's exile and flourish again with her return each Spring.

How tempting to blame our rising temperatures and sea levels on myth as well. Were it not for curmudgeon scientists, we could dwell peacefully in the land of make-believe, interrupted only by increasingly frequent natural disasters. Alas, even Persephone seems unable to weather the telltale extremes.

Regal to the end, Persephone is but a wisp of her former self, a trace of which may be glimpsed amid the rust of her ravaged head. Both maiden's face and crone's have been known to appear there. A horn is symbol of Hades' imprint upon her, and the Pressuretrol, of humanity's. Branches of Mother Earth's affection embrace her entangled spirit.





R.M. CROFT

Fragment Rollup (guaranteed) and Abandoned Litter (metal works), 2009 and 2007

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: With the line between peaceful society and raging battlefield permanently distorted, even gerrymandered in a sense, the artist is challenged to cobble together an image expressing one moment's absurdity before it becomes superseded by another. Using the products and implements of a consumer culture as palette, a tragicomic assemblage emerges in a cathartic cry.

Abandoned litter comments on life in a constant state of upheaval. One war begins before the previous ends. Military style death visits an elementary school, and the nation shrugs. Race resurfaces, leaving black kids lying in the street. With duct tape, level and pole, a pair of handles are added to one end of a trashed beach chair. With crutches, straps and more poles, another pair of handles and webbing form a makeshift litter ready to evacuate soldiers, children, police officers or teachers. Beauty is irrelevant. Craft is whatever works today. The future is indeterminate.



STEVEN STARK

Untitled and (graphic prints, 18" x 24") 2014

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: Hopefully, they speak for themselves. Suffice it to say that despite repeated demonstrations of the capriciousness and inequity of the death penalty, its use continues unabated and by and large undebated. And, as to the second, we're still waiting for any regulation to address the causes of the 2008 meltdown and the excesses of Wall Street.



LINES DRAWN (artists)

Annie Bissett

Aaron Bowles

F. Lennox Campello

R.M. Croft

Donna Festa

Claudia Gibson-Hunter

Jean Marie Guyaux

David Robert Kamm

Natalia

Jeanie Neyer

Louis Nieves

KM Ramich

Hernando Rico Sanchez

Vincent Romanello

Julia Kim Smith

Steven Stark

Roy Utlej

Dara Herman Zierlain

Anatol Zukerman

The fine art of social and political change

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