

Victoria Reynolds Artist's Statement

Rendering the subject of flesh allows me to explore conventions of representation and our suspicion of the beautiful, seductive image. My paintings, often set in ornate and carnivalesque rococo- or baroque-style frames, address ideas of beauty, taste, distinctions between flesh and meat, and the use and sacrifice of animals. My research in historical artworks ranges from Dutch vanitas, genre paintings, kitchen and butcher stall scenes, hunting scenes, and the Venetian art of painting flesh to portrayals of divine sacrifice.

Historical genre paintings of festoons and garlands hearken back to a time when humans festooned foliage with animals' intestines for festive décor. Historical Dutch still lifes and vanitas embed their moral message in kitchen scenes, butcher stall scenes, and improbable confectionery creations. In other genre works, proud hunting dogs pose with their spread and dead prey, and wily cats swipe glistening, wet morsels from excessively laid tables.

The arts of presentation and display can vaunt any subject into formal iconography. My recent research into conventional hunting trophy presentations and historic heraldic imagery is generating new paintings and drawings. I also frequently find simulacra and pareidolia in fleshly biomorphic tissues, and these sensual works may refer to "temptations of the flesh" and our carnal appetites—including a suspect enjoyment of a beautiful and illusory image.

Artful portrayal can be banned outright or rules made to rein in its power. The creation of art has divine associations, from Albrecht Durer's self-portrait in his fabulous Jesus wig to pietas of Mary and Jesus rendered in their own palpable, glowing, translucent, layered flesh. The Stain of the Real may spread under the chicken's carcass and Jesus' burial shroud. Sacrificial animals include the ox, lamb, dove, and chicken, and Jesus likened himself to an embracing mother hen.

Chaim Soutine's suspended Slaughtered Ox compares favorably with a crucifixion scene, and Francis Bacon's visceral popes quote Velasquez's Innocent X. Austrian Actionist Hermann Nitsch's performances and relics reenact divine sacrifice. Paul Thek's ornate reliquaries house wax-sculpted pieces of meat. These works ooze with Catholic imagery. The work of Bob Flanagan, Martin O'Brien, and Sheree Rose emphasize the body and flesh, sickness, pain, and healing. Like saints mortifying their flesh, they employ whips and various instruments, recalling the *Arma Christi*.

Neural networks, veins, and branching arteries resemble rivers and tree roots. Rot, fermentation, biodegrading corpses, and glutinous corporeal things may be repulsive objects of horror to us while they lead to rebirth.

Victoria Reynolds

Resume

Education

Master of Fine Arts in Painting/Drawing, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV (1993) Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma (1990)

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2020

"Incarnadine," Bert Green Fine Art, Chicago, IL

2019

"What's More Real than Flesh?," Nan Rae Gallery, Woodbury University, Burbank, CA

2017

"Medaillons de Corps (Flesh Medallions)," Bert Green Fine Art, Chicago, IL

2014

"Where Flesh Meets Flora," Laguna College of Art & Design Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA

2013

"The Way of All Flesh," California State University Channel Islands, Napa Gallery, Camarillo, CA

"A Moveable Feast," multimedia installation, The Mango Tree House, The Studios of Key West, Key West, Florida

2011

"Flesh to Flora," Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

2008

"Drawn and Rendered," Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

2003

"Slab Happy," Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

2002

"Carne Vale," Blue Star Arts Complex, Satellite Space, San Antonio, Texas

2001

"Rare and Well-Done (Blodig och genomstekt)," Galleri Ahnlund, Umeå, Sweden

2000

"Bienvenido: The Living Desert," Living Desert, Las Vegas, NV

1999

"Sins of the Flesh," Angstrom Gallery, Dallas, Texas

1998 "Birds of Prey," Cathedral Canyon, Pahrump, NV

1994

"Stain of the Real," The Cannery at Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, NV

1993

"Jouissance," Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, Las Vegas, NV

1992

"Pink Work," Jessie Metcalf Gallery, Las Vegas, NV

Selected Group Exhibitions

2020

"Terra Incognita," Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Ana, CA. Catalog.

"Chapelle de Poulette," Edward Cella Art and Architecture

2019

"Outside the Lines," The Studios of Key West, Key West, Florida

"Offal," invited artist, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Barnsdall Art Park, Los Angeles, CA, organized by Steven Wong

"Let Me Eat Cake, Too," Blue Roof Studios, Los Angeles, curated by Kristine Schomaker

"Ribba 5," Coastline Art Gallery, Coastline College, Newport Beach, CA

"Mango Madness," The Studios of Key West, Key West, Florida

"Kitsch-In-Sync," Coastline Art Gallery, Coastline College, Newport Beach, CA, curated by Bradford J. Salamon

"Free Range," California State University Northridge Gallery, Northridge, California

"Fourth Annual Shop Show," California State University Northridge West Gallery, Northridge, California

2018

"Nature Morte: Contemporary Artists Reinvigorate the Still Life," Guildhall Art Gallery in partnership with MOCA London, London. Curated by Michael Petry and Roberto Ekholm, MOCA London.

2017

"Every Breath You Take," Jason Vass, Los Angeles, CA

"Nature Morte: Contemporary Artists Reinvigorate the Still-Life Tradition," Museum of Contemporary Art, Branch of the National Museum in Wroclaw, Poland, The Four Domes Pavilion, traveling to Antwerp, Belgium in 2017, and MOCA London in 2018.

"Rectilinear Occlusion Gears," Pasadena City College Gallery, Pasadena, CA

"Art Basil LA," John Kilduff's studios, Van Nuys, CA

2016

"The Final Tally," Victor Xiu Gallery, Las Vegas, NV "Dishing It Out," UV Gallery, Las Vegas, NV

"Mug Shots," Wonderland Gallery, Las Vegas, NV

"Nature Morte: Contemporary Artists Reinvigorate the Still-Life Tradition," Konsthallen Bohusläns Museum, Uddevalla, Sweden. Traveled from Hå Gamle Prestegard, Naerbø, Norway.

"Shop Show," California State University Northridge West Gallery, Northridge, CA

"Hearsay: Artists Reveal Urban Legends," curated by Lauren Haisch and Wendy Sherman, LosJoCos Gallery, Los Angeles, CA. Catalog.

"Summer Salon," The Studios of Key West, Key West, Conch Republic, FL

2015

"Reindeer Art and Artifacts," The Viewing Room, Los Angeles, CA

2014

"Hearsay: Artists Reveal Urban Legends," curated by Lauren Haisch and Wendy Sherman, California State University Fullerton, Begovich Gallery, Fullerton, CA. Catalog.

"If You Wanna Sell Art – Paint Pussycats" (Carlos Almaraz). Organized by Elsa Flores Almaraz. Industrial Complex 134, Highland Park, CA.

"Past, Present and Future," Trifecta Gallery, Las Vegas, NV.

2013

"Mango Madness," The Armory, The Studios of Key West, Key West, FL.

2012

"LVAM at the Barrick," Marjorie Barrick Museum, Las Vegas, NV.

"Gallery Artists," Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica, CA.

2011

"Acquired Taste," curated by Alyssa Cordova and Heather Richards, California State University, Fullerton, Begovich Gallery. Catalog.

"Human Nature," curated by Richard Heller, Galeria Espacio Minimo, Madrid, Spain.

"Monsters of Art," curated by Doug Harvey, West Los Angeles College Gallery, Culver City, CA.

"Art Platform - Los Angeles," Los Angeles, CA

"Chain Letter," organized by Doug Harvey and Christian Cummings, Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Santa Monica, CA.

2010

"100 Artists See Satan Again: A Fundraiser," California State Fullerton Grand Central Art Center, Santa Ana, CA.

2009

"Nine Lives: Visionary Artists from L.A.," curated by Ali Subotnik, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA. Catalog.

2008

"Aspects of Mel's Hole: Artists Respond to a Paranormal Land Event Occurring in Radiospace," curated by Doug Harvey, Grand Central Art Center, Santa Ana, CA. Catalog.

"Las Vegas Diaspora: The Emergence of Contemporary Art from the Neon Homeland," curated by Dave Hickey, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA. Traveled from Las Vegas Art Museum. Catalog.

"Some Paintings: The Third Annual LA Weekly Annual Biennial," curated by Doug Harvey, Track 16, Santa Monica, CA. 2007

"Las Vegas Diaspora: The Emergence of Contemporary Art from the Neon Homeland," curated by Dave Hickey, Las Vegas Art Museum, Las Vegas, NV. Catalog.

"Department of Art Faculty Exhibition," University of California Santa Barbara, Goleta, CA

"Art Auction = Stimulus," organized by Tyler Stallings, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA 2006

"Cribbage & Crabgrass," The Viewing Room, Los Angeles, CA Inaugural Exhibition of Gallery Artists, Marty Walker Gallery, Dallas, Texas

"100 Artists See God," traveling exhibition curated by John Baldessari and Meg Cranston. Venue in 2006: Cheekwood Museum of Art, Nashville, TN. Catalog.

2005

"100 Artists See God," traveling exhibition curated by John Baldessari and Meg Cranston. Venues in 2005: Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, England; Contemporary Art Center of Virginia, Virginia Beach, VA; and Albright College Freedman Art Gallery, Reading, Pennsylvania. Catalog.

"Interpretation and Innovation," Studio Channel Islands Art Center Gallery, California State University Channel Islands, Camarillo, CA

2004

"100 Artists See God," traveling exhibition curated by John Baldessari and Meg Cranston. Venues in 2004: The Contemporary Jewish Museum, San Francisco, CA and Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA . Catalog.

"American Gothic: Talent for the Dark Ages," curated by Tyler Stallings, Gallery C, Hermosa Beach, CA

"Our Daily Bread," CAC, Arts Factory, Las Vegas, NV

"100 Artists See Satan," California State University Fullerton Grand Central Art Center, Santa Ana, CA. Catalog.

"Tradition and Technology," Studio Channel Islands Art Center Gallery, California State University Channel Islands, Camarillo, CA

"Apocalypse," University of California, Los Angeles

"The Armory Show: The International Fair of New Art," Twelfth Avenue at 50th and 52nd Streets, New York City

"The Raw and the Cooked," curated by David Pagel, Claremont Center for the Arts, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA

2003

"Min skattkammare (My Treasury)," The Royal Armory, Kungliga Slottet, Stockholm, Sweden. Catalog

"Art Basel Miami Beach International Art Show," Miami Beach, FL "Yum!," CAC Gallery, Arts Factory, Las Vegas, NV

"Inside Out," Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

2002

"Dumbo and Beyond," Davis Gallery, Austin, TX. Curated by Marjorie Moore.

"Dining Haul: Unpacked," exhibition in meat lockers in the meat packing district, 819 & 823 Washington St., NY, NY. Curated by Alisoun Meehan.

"Five by Seven by X," traveling exhibition, Jones Center for Contemporary Art, Austin, TX ; Dunn and Brown Contemporary, Dallas, TX; Inman Gallery, Houston, Texas; Finesilver Gallery, San Antonio, TX "Stockholm Art Fair," Sollentuna, Stockholm, Sweden

"Eating Out," Blue Star Arts Complex, Satellite Space, San Antonio, TX

2001

"Diabolical Beauty," Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara, CA. Curated by Jane Callister and Colin Gardner. Catalog.

"Church Show," Backenkyrkan, Umeå, Sweden

"The Magic Hour," at the Künstlerhaus in cooperation with Neue Galerie, Graz, Austria. Catalog.

"The Life You Save May Be Your Own," 31 Grand, NY, NY. Curated by Karen Heagle and Heather Stephens.

"Kungliga Palatset," Konsthögskolan, Umeå, Sweden

"The Christian Dinosaur Show," Prehistoric World Museum, Umeå, Sweden. Catalog.

"Art on the Rocks," art and performance event at the Ice Hotel, Jukkasjärvi, Sweden. Catalog.

2000

"Välkommen till Umeå: Doug Harvey Sound Project," Måleri Ateljé, Konsthögskolan, Umeå, Sweden

"Mathesis (The Action of Learning)", Cerritos College Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

1999

"Wrapped Up," Frumkin/Duval Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

"Gallery Artists 2000," Angstrom Gallery, Dallas, TX

"Summer Pleasures," Qualità Fine Art Gallery, Las Vegas, NV. Curated by Nancy Hoffman.

"Öppet Hus," Konsthögskolan, Umeå, Sweden "Passion Play," Helen Elisabeth Chapel, Gammlia, Västerbottens Museum, Umeå, Sweden

Selected Vegas artists, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, NV

1998

"Sweet," FM, Sixth Floor, NY, NY

"New Directions '98: Fourteenth Annual National Juried Fine Arts Exhibition," Barrett Art Center, Poughkeepsie, NY.

Juror: Eugenie Tsai.

"The Alumni Show," Jessie Metcalf Gallery, Las Vegas, NV

"Intersections National Juried Exhibit," Stevens-George Gallery, Hammond, IN

"Americas 2000 All Media Competition," Northwest Art Center, Minot, ND. Received Recommended for Purchase award.

"Luck of the Draw," invitational exhibition, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, NV

"100 Dollar Show and Up," POST, Los Angeles, CA

"Deluxe: Who and What's Hot in Las Vegas," invitational, SITE Las Vegas, Arts Factory, Las Vegas, NV

"Contemporary Realism III Exhibition," Gallery Alexy, Philadelphia, PA

"I-15 (Interstate Highway Fifteen)," POST, Los Angeles, CA

"I to Eye," invitational, Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

1997

"The Red and Green Show," invitational, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, NV

"Rubber Icing Velvet Meat," four-person exhibition, Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara, CA

"Five Easy Pieces," invitational, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, NV

"Pot Luck," Contemporary Arts Collective in conjunction with N.C.E.C.A., Las Vegas, NV. Curated by Kathy Garlock and Mary Warner.

"The Vegas Show," Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

"Hot, Hot Haute," invitational, Contemporary Arts Collective in conjunction with Studio West, Las Vegas, NV

"Different Looks II," Jessie Metcalf Gallery, Las Vegas, NV

1996

"The Cranberry Show: An Exhibition of Good Taste," The Cranberry Museum, Ocean Spray Cranberry World West, Henderson, NV. Curated by Jeffrey Vallance.

"Rubber Icing Velvet Meat," four-person exhibition, Contemporary Arts Collective, Las Vegas, NV

"Faculty Collects," Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, Las Vegas, NV "Melancholy Cure," Västerbottens Museum, Egelhal, Umeå, Sweden

"Pushing the Envelope," invitational, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, NV

"The Magic Show," Magic and Movie Hall of Fame, O'Shea's Hotel Casino, Las Vegas, NV. Curated by Jeffrey Vallance.

"1996 Nevada Biennial Exhibition," Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, and Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, NV. Juror: Susan Landauer. Received Honorable Mention.

"Cathedral Canyon," installation at Cathedral Canyon, Pahrump, NV

"Different Looks: Women Artists of UNLV," Jessie Metcalf Gallery, Las Vegas, NV. Curated by Libby Lumpkin and Cathie Kelly.

"UNLV Adjunct Faculty Exhibit," Jessie Metcalf Gallery, Las Vegas, NV

1995

"The Debbie Reynolds Show," Debbie Reynolds Museum, Debbie Reynolds Hotel/Casino, Las Vegas, NV. Curated by Jeffrey Vallance.

"Chair-i-Tea," invitational, Temporary Contemporary Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV "Playing With a Full Deck... Or Not," Temporary Contemporary Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV
"Art3," invitational, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Las Vegas, NV "Wide Open Open," national exhibition, Long Beach Arts, Long Beach, CA. Juror: Lisa Adams. Received Honorable Mention.

Selected Public Collections

Hammer Museum, Los Angeles CA
Swedish Apoteket (State Pharmacy) Art Society
State Library of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Logan, Utah
Las Vegas Art Museum, Las Vegas, NV
Marjorie Barrick Museum, Las Vegas, NV
Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, University of NV, Las Vegas
University of Oklahoma Permanent Collection - Prints

Selected Private Collections

Darren Brown, London
Mariann Ahnlund, Umeå, Sweden
Jan Watteus, Stockholm
Dr. Folke Rönn, Umeå, Sweden
Brenna Youngblood, Los Angeles CA
Paul Ruscha, Los Angeles CA
Gary Kornblau, Hollywood, CA
Ed Moses, Los Angeles CA
Blake Byrne, Los Angeles CA
Dave Shulman, Los Angeles CA
Marsha Bohr, Pasadena, CA
Cecilia and Michael Dan, Malibu, CA
Alan Power, Venice, CA
David Quadrini, Los Angeles CA
Reese Shaw, Encinitas, CA
Barry Sloane, Beverly Hills, CA
Heather Lowe, Los Angeles CA
Kristine Schomacher, Los Angeles CA
Carol Cheh, Los Angeles CA
Paulette Nichols, Oakland, CA
Laurie Hassold, Costa Mesa, CA
Jeffrey Gillette, Costa Mesa, CA
Paul Merryman, Moraga, CA
Bert Green, Chicago IL
Libby Lumpkin, Albuquerque, NM
Dave Hickey, Albuquerque, NM
Tony Lydgate, Hawaii
Diane Bush, Las Vegas, NV
David Curtis, Las Vegas, NV
Stewart Freshwater, Las Vegas, NV
Jennifer and Dr. Martin Safko, Las Vegas, NV
Ken Seward, Las Vegas, NV
Laura Small, Las Vegas, NV
Mary Warner, Sacramento, CA
Lynda Whitehair, Las Vegas, NV

Richard and Alita Rogers, OH

Mark Babcock, Dallas, TX

Laura Davis, Dallas, TX

Eric Scroger, Dallas, TX

Karol Howard and George Morton, Plano, TX

Trenton Hancock, Houston, TX