



Buffalo Arts Studio

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Gallery hours: Tuesday - Friday 11-5; Saturday 11-3

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Buffalo, NY
Permit #3811

Lin Price: Constellations

Robert Booth: Figurations

June 4 - July 30, 2011

Opening Reception

Saturday, June 4, 2011

7-10 p.m.

Artist talks @ 7-8 p.m.



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Lin Price

Robert Booth



Lin Price: Constellations

Ithaca, NY-based painter Lin Price takes as her subject matter the people and animals that inhabit her daily surroundings, transforming these autobiographical elements through skewed scale, contrasting colors, the lack of illusionistic space, and the bizarre juxtaposition and repetition of objects to create surreal open-ended narratives that attest to her (and her characters') fears, fantasies, and obsessions. The intimate details, loose yet realistic style, and layering and reworking of paint highlight the romanticism underlying the banality of rural life, as seen in the artist's depiction of her father and brother sharing a moment witnessing the rare occurrence of a white deer in *Romulus* (serendipitously, I spotted one of these endangered animals on my drive home from a studio visit with the artist). In *Carefully Tended Obsessions* (cover image), a man diligently—or perhaps stubbornly—polishes a glistening statue, oblivious to the time of day or the nude woman advancing in the distance; his arduousness is mirrored by five dung beetles, insects known for upholding a straight line in the face of obstacles, pulling 1,141 times their own body weight, and utilizing polarized moonlight for orientation. While the painting may be read somewhat cynically—has so much time passed that the nude is now a mirage?—there is a lightheartedness reflected by the pastel pink background and comedic choice of insect. Unabashedly exposing the eccentricities of her subjects (including her husband, who is featured prominently), there is an undeniable sentimentality in Price's endearing representation of humankind's internal conflicts, struggles for self-empowerment, and our awkward attempts to connect with one another.



Lin Price received her BFA from Ithaca College and an MFA in painting from Bard College/Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts, Annandale, New York. Ms. Price's paintings and drawings have been exhibited at regional and national galleries and museums. Highlights of her exhibition record are: XL Projects, Syracuse, NY;



Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, CA; Munson Williams Proctor Arts Institute Museum, Utica, NY; H.F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University; Handwerker Gallery, Ithaca College; Memorial Art Gallery/Museum, Rochester, NY; Delevan Gallery, Syracuse, NY; Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, MA; Hartell Gallery, Cornell University; and Houghton Gallery at 171 Cedar Arts, Corning, NY. Ms. Price has been the recipient of the Elaine DeKoening Memorial Award for painting, Cornell Council on the Arts Grant, NYFA/SOS award, and a residency at the Saltonstall Foundation. Publications featuring her work include *The Journal of Art and Ideas* Issues #2 and #5 at Syracuse University and *Creative Quarterly: Journal of Art and Design*. Lin Price's work is in the collections of the Munson Williams Proctor Arts Institute and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art Research Library, as well as numerous private collections.



Robert Booth: Figurations

Robert Booth is a Fredonia, NY-based sculptor whose works, while partially influenced by real people and circumstances, reflect broader elements of humanity such as self-identity and social stigmas, war and religion, and life and death. Booth's subjects, indifferently tending to their day-to-day activities in rather unflattering, arguably humiliating poses, are seemingly unaware of their predicaments: the deformities, disabilities, sorrows, tortures, traumas, and hardships that plague them, whether self-imposed or suffered from some outside force. While several of Booth's works are named after particular people (e.g., *Rochelle*; *Celeste*; *Leoda*; and *Miranda*), offering little indication of a narrative or theme, others possess more extensive descriptions (*Jennifer: She Believed in Redemption*; *James: Sadly, Misfortune Was His Salvation*; *Raymond: A Good Dancer Before the War*; and *Cindi: Knew Nothing of Her Real Predicament*) which, paired with the figures' frozen stances—naked, bent over, arms outstretched, amid maladroit movements—help the viewer evoke vivid mental storylines for each of the characters. Their intentional rawness, palpability, and diminutive size, enhanced by their fixed placement atop commonplace pedestals such as paint cans, stools, and birdhouses, contribute to their status as objects to be gazed upon or ridiculed. Conversely, their admirable shamelessness and calmness in the face of adversity elicit a self-awareness in the viewer that, in turn, produces a desire to confront one's own physical and mental insecurities forthrightly; thus, ironically, these potentially mundane depictions of humankind are elevated to monuments of human dignity and perseverance. As the artist describes, "even what might be considered an 'ordinary life' can be of extraordinary proportions."



- Cori Wolff, Exhibitions Curator

Robert Booth did his undergraduate studies at the Art Institute of Boston and the Massachusetts College of Art, where he received his BFA in 1976. After completing his MFA at Syracuse University in 1978, he accepted a position at the State University of New York College at Fredonia. He served as Chair of the Department of Visual Art and New Media from 1988-96, and is a former President of the SUNY Council of Art Department Chairs. Promoted to the rank of SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor in the spring of 2005, Booth continues to teach sculpture at Fredonia and in 2009 again assumed the responsibilities of department chair. His sculpture and drawings have been presented in more than one hundred solo and group exhibitions at museums, not-for-profits, and commercial gallery spaces. He has given numerous lectures about his work at a variety of presentation venues. His biography appears in *Who's Who in American Art* and *Who's Who in American Education*.

www.linprice.com

www.robertboothstudio.com