



The Newsletter of the **Queer Caucus for Art** Vol. 23, No. 2 October 2011

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Caucus for Art, Artists & Historians

Fixture of NYC Queer Arts Earns State Certification



The Leslie-Lohman Gay Art Foundation in New York received approval in June of its petition for a New York State museum charter, making it the first LGBT visual arts organization to be officially recognized by the government. Under the new charter, the foundation, founded in 1990, will be renamed the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art. Planning is under way for an official announcement and celebration later this year.

Leslie-Lohman will continue to operate its existing gallery at 26 Wooster Street in the SoHo arts district, where its fall 2011 season opens on September 13 with a group show titled “Lesbians Seeing Lesbians: Building Community in Early Feminist Photography,” featuring works by Tee Corinne, JEB, Catherine Opie, and other movement pioneers.

The renewed institution will also be able to expand its activities to include exhibitions from its permanent collection, which now numbers some 6,000 items dating back to the early 19th century. In addition, since museum certification makes other institutions more willing to lend their works, the board and

staff are looking forward to loan shows from other institutions, as well as an expanded schedule of public educational programs. The first such initiative, now being scheduled for 2011–2012, is a series of lectures by artists and critics co-sponsored with the University at Buffalo, NY, to take place in both of the state’s largest cities.

The state’s Education Department granted its usual 5-year provisional charter, which certifies that the group has met basic standards of financial, artistic, educational, and organizational quality. This initial charter will become permanent in five years, provided that Leslie-Lohman continues to upgrade its facilities and programs to even higher levels of professional standards. Fortunately, the Museum has recently received two significant bequests, which will assure financial stability and funds for continuing improvements. For information on the new museum’s formal debut and other future events as they occur, visit www.leslielohman.org.

—Jim Saslow

News Of Members

Dr. María DeGuzmán, Associate Professor of English & Comparative Literature and Director of Latina/o Studies at UNC-Chapel Hill as well as conceptual photographer, creates photo-based images for books of scholarly and/or creative writing. Her photograph *Caida de luz* (2010) was selected as the cover image for the story collection *Ambientes: New Queer Latino Writing* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2011) nominated for the American Library Association's Stonewall Book Award. About the collection, its editors write: "As the U.S. Latino population grows rapidly, and as the LGBTQ Latino community becomes more visible and a more crucial part of our literary and artistic heritage, there is an increasing demand for literature that successfully highlights their diverse lives. Edited by Lázaro Lima and Felice Picano, *Ambientes* is a revolutionary collection of fiction featuring stories by established authors as well as emerging voices that present a collective portrait of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender experience in the United States today. With a preface by Picano and an introduction by Lima that sets the stage for understanding Latino literary and cultural history, this is the first anthology to cross cultural and regional borders by offering a wide variety of urban, rural, East Coast, West Coast, and Midwestern perspectives on Latina and Latino queers from different walks of life. Stories range from sensual pieces to comical romances and from inner city dramas fueled by street language to portraits of gay domesticity, making this a much-needed collection for many different kinds of readers. The stories in this collection reflect a vibrant and creative archive of queer Latino community making and redefine received notions of what constitutes normative notions of 'gay' and 'lesbian' cultural identity." The Web site for this collection is: <http://www.myambientes.com/index.html>. This Web site contains many useful resources for any class dealing with queer representations. Meanwhile, María is working on numerous photo and photo-text projects, but she also makes time to read manuscripts slated for publication that are sent to her with the goal of having her create photo-based images for their covers. To contact her about potential book cover image projects, please write to: mdeguzman@earthlink.net

An interview and examples of work by **George Dinhaupt** was published in April: "Saints and Stereotypes: Photographer George Dinhaupt Captures the Beauty and Importance of Human Diversity" by Brent Calderwood in *A&U (Art and Understanding) Magazine*.



Heyd Fontenot, *Pink Suite*, 2000–2010, mixed media installation, dimensions vary. Courtesy of the Artist. Photo credit: The Art Gallery, University of Maryland

Heyd Fontenot's mid-career retrospective, *The Very Queer Portraits of Heyd Fontenot*, will appear at the Cornell Fine Arts Museum, Rollins College, in Winter Park, Florida from October 22, 2011 to January 8, 2012.

Against Seamlessness, an exhibition of new paintings by **Harmony Hammond** will be featured at Dwight Hackett projects, Santa Fe, from October 15 to November 26th, 2011. A 36-page illustrated catalogue, published by Radius Press, will accompany the exhibition. The limited edition catalogue will include a foreword by Julia Bryan-Wilson, essay by Tirza True Latimer, and will be signed and numbered by the artist. <http://www.dwighthackett.com> and orders@radiusbooks.org. In addition, the gallery at Left Coast Books in Santa Barbara/Goleta is pleased to announce Erasing Censorship, an exhibition of bronze sculptures, digital prints and mixed media two-dimensional work by Hammond. The exhibition will be up through October 22, 2011.

Paintings from the Classical Figures Series by **Gerard Huber**, Professor of Art at Texas A&M University-Commerce, appear in *100 Artists of the Male Figure, A Contemporary Anthology of Painting, Drawing and Sculpture* by E. Gibbons, recently published by Schiffer Publishing, Ltd. Nearly 400 works capture masculine beauty in many styles. Each artist's approach is documented through candid personal statements. This resource brings balance to the figurative art world and is an ideal reference for artists, curators, dealers, student, and collectors. Paintings from the Classical Figures Series also appeared in *Powerfully Beautiful, Classically Inspired: Living Painters of the Male Figure* published by Firehouse Studio Publications last year.



Harmony Hammond, "Speaking Braids" (detail), Art © Harmony Hammond/
Licensed by VAGA, NYC. Courtesy Dwight Hackett projects.

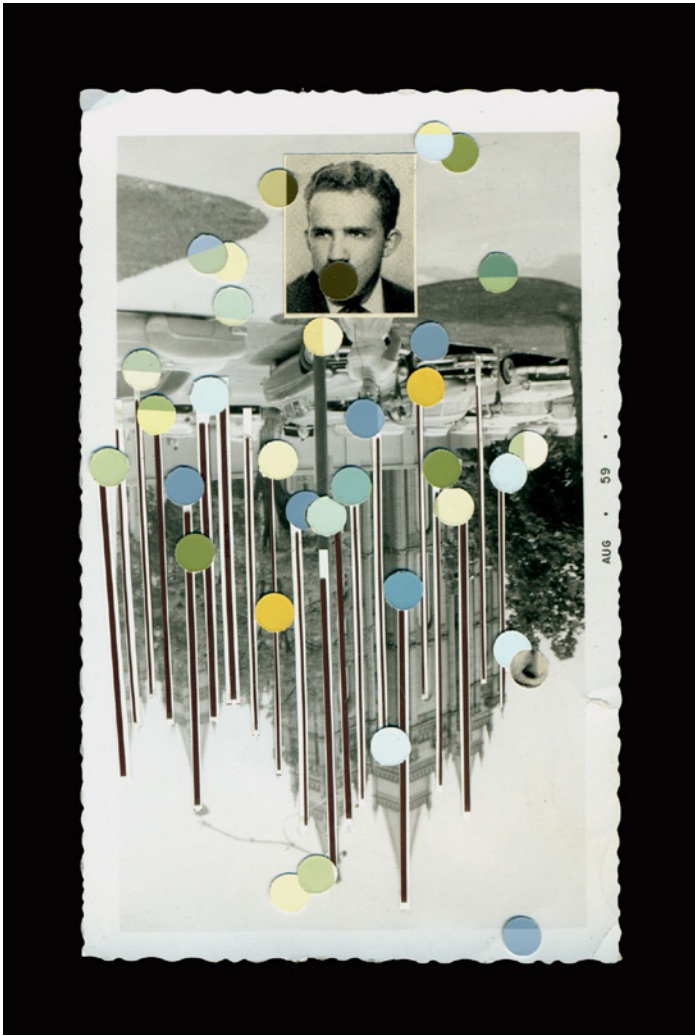
Jonathan Ned Katz, now best known for his pioneering histories of LGBT life, had an earlier career as a visual artist. As a youth he won competitive entrance as an art major to New York City's prestigious public High School of Music and Art, and later worked for 12 years as a professional textile designer. For the first time, Katz exhibited recent works in the Biennial Art Show in the Fire Island Pines on Saturday, August 6. After a 30-year hiatus, around 2004, Jonathan Ned Katz returned to visual art-making and has since then regularly attended male figure drawing sessions at the Leslie/Lohman Gay Men's Erotic Drawing Workshop, at New York's Gay Center, and in other gay venues around the city, producing a series of always sensuous, sometimes sexual, paintings on paper. Employing a variety of media (tempera paint, pastels, colored pencils, glitter glue, and occasionally collage), Katz has developed a style influenced by folk art, child art, and so-called "primitive art." Among visual artists now exploring new approaches to gay male life and the erotic, Katz's style is distinctly his own. Katz is now preparing for his first solo art show. On January 29, 2013, an exhibition of Katz's art will open at the Leslie-Lohman Gallery, in Soho, in New York City, initiated and curated by the noted art historian Jonathan David Katz (the two are not related). Jonathan Ned Katz is predicting that, in the next few years, art focusing on LGBT themes, by homosexual and heterosexual artists, will at last be

recognized in the mainstream art world as a distinct, influential genre of visual art, just as feminist art and art by women, African Americans, and Latino creators, among others, has finally been recognized, after a long struggle. A large retrospective of Katz's art is viewable at JonathanNedKatzArt.com. Purchasers of Katz's art receive a free bonus, a signed poster Katz created for a possible queer art show. If you would like to see a copy email Katz at jnk123@mac.com

The review by **Sandra Langer** of Jay Jorgensen's *Edith Head: The Fifty Year Career of Hollywood's Greatest Costume Designer* is now available at the online version of the *HG&LR* (formerly the *Harvard Gay and Lesbian Review*—now the *Gay and Lesbian Review International*). The link can also be accessed through Langer's Romainebrooks.com site. Langer states that what is interesting about the book is that Jorgensen still insists on skirting the issue of Head's lesbianism. In the review Langer notes Edith Head's contributions yet refuses to go along with Mr. Jorgensen's attempted cover up of her sexual orientation, with the belief that one should celebrate Head's creativity and sexuality because it fueled her remarkable achievements.

Crawford Alexander Mann III has been appointed the Joan and Macon Brock Curator of American Art at the Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk, VA. Since 2009, he has been the inaugural Andrew W. Mellon Curatorial Fellow in the Department of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs at the RISD Museum of Art in Providence, RI. He is curator of the exhibition *Pilgrims of Beauty: Art and Inspiration in 19th-Century Italy*, opening Feb. 3, 2012 at the RISD Museum.

Half Letter Press, an imprint of the collaborative art group Temporary Services, has just published **Mary Patten's** *Revolution as an Eternal Dream*, a book-length pictorial essay that examines the political practice and visual propaganda of a now-obscure women's poster, printmaking, and street art collective based in New York City between 1975 and 1983. For a brief, intense period of time, the MBGC collaborated on projects against racism and in solidarity with national liberation movements, producing many beautiful multicolored silkscreened prints, note cards, banners, posters, and other print ephemera before withdrawing into the isolation of a sectarian and militaristic political line. By 1982 its core members were in prison or underground. *Revolution as an Eternal Dream* calls up the perpetual desire for revolution, but also the frailty of such dreams. Preface by Lucy Lippard and an afterword by Gregory Sholette. Patten and Half Letter Press will be at the Printed Matter/New York Art Book Fair, September 30–October 2, at MoMA PS1, 22–25 Jackson Avenue at 46th Avenue, Long Island City, NY. Other book launch events are being planned for Chicago, New York City, the Bay area, and elsewhere. For more info, contact Half Letter Press at: <http://halfletterpress.com/>



Cory Peeke, *Untitled (temple)*, 2011, mixed-media collage, 5.25" x 3.5"

Cory Peeke, Associate Professor of Art & Director of the Nightingale Gallery at Eastern Oregon University has recently had work included in the exhibit *George Maciunas and Beyond: Fluxus Never Stops* at the Kaunas Biennial in Lithuania. His work will also be included in the upcoming anthology *MEIN SCHWULES AUGE / MY GAY EYE 8* that will be published October 2011 by Konkursbuchverlag Claudia Gehrke, Berlin. The anthology is edited by Rinaldo Hopf (Images) and Axel Schock (Texts).

Ohm Phanphiroj is participating in the Noorderlicht International Photo Festival 2011 in Groningen, Netherlands from September 10–October 9, 2011. His *Underage* photographic and film works about underage male prostitutes will be exhibited. <http://www.noorderlicht.com/en/photofestival/metropolis/photographers/>

Not Another Special Guest—Teaching Trans Now, a special issue of *Radical Teacher* coedited by **Shana Agid** and **Erica Rand**, will be published in December 2011.

Submit your news! Email information on to jonathanfwalz@aol.com. Each issue the editors will compile and publish news, links, and images from our members.



Robert Schatz, cover art for *Providence* by Vovete

Two paintings by artist **Robert Schatz** have been featured as cover art for *Providence*, the debut album by the experimental indie pop band Vovete. Schatz's work appears as the CD art as well as the interior and back of the album's cover. The band writes that his paintings, "powerful, graceful arabesques, full of movement, transform into landscapes that manage to be both beautiful and frightening, abstract and cartoon, ominous and enthralling." Schatz has exhibited internationally, including solo shows in New York and Paris. His art is in the permanent collections of the Fogg Museum of Harvard University, the Pollock Works on Paper Collection at Southern Methodist University, the U.S. Department of State (American Embassy, Sofia, Bulgaria), the University of Scranton, and Pfizer Inc, as well as in many private collections in North America and Europe. Schatz was born in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and studied at the Baum School of Art there as a young man. He earned a bachelor of arts degree magna cum laude in history and philosophy at the University of Scranton, then continued his fine art studies at Massachusetts College of Art and The Art Institute of Boston. He lives and works in New York.

Jenni Sorkin has been appointed Assistant Professor of Art History and Critical Theory in the School of Art, University of Houston. She will give a Distinguished Alumni Lecture at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in November, 2011.

In mid-March **Jonathan Frederick Walz** was appointed Interim Director of the Cornell Fine Arts Museum at Rollins College in Winter Park, FL. Among other projects, he is currently curating *Kim Russo: FAMILY*, an investigation in life-size watercolors of lesbian couples with adopted children. He also recently co-founded Rollins College's LGBTQ staff-faculty coalition, in an effort to improve the climate on campus.

Nacht Krebs, featured on the following page, is one of a series of mixed media, photo collage/drawings by **Jason Watson**. Watson began this series during a residency at the Ragdale Foundation in Lake Forest, IL, in summer 2011. The series will be published in a book titled *Fremde*, coming out in early 2012.

Vagner Whitehead is having a solo show titled *sign* at Wittenberg University's Ann Miller Gallery this fall, from Oct 3–28, 2011. He is also in a group show in Moscow, Russia, titled *Interior-ity*, at the Proekt Fabrika, for the 4th Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art. He will be on sabbatical, as of January 2012.



Kim Russo, *Family (Kitchen)*, 2011, Watercolor and graphite on paper, 72" x 123", courtesy of the artist.



Jason Watson, *Nacht Krebs*, 2011, mixed media, photo collage/drawing

Note from the Editor

Greetings Queer-Arters! It has been my pleasure to serve as QCA newsletter editor since the January 2009 issue. Sherman Clarke left some very big shoes to fill, but I am also proud of the (small but significant) innovations that occurred during my tenure, including the addition of color images, live internet links, and the member profiles feature on the back page. Working with Sherman, as well as with Lacey Jane Roberts, Virginia Solomon, and Darren Miller has been, at turns, intense, irreverent, but most of all: fun. My largest shout out goes to designer extraordinaire Jesse Kahn, who not only put up with my inner Control Queen copy-editor but, more importantly, brought our group's signature publication into the digital age with glamour and sass. Life is taking me in new and exciting directions and I see fit to pass the red pencil (as it were) at our upcoming business meeting in Los Angeles. If anyone in the QCA loves words, images, and snarky banter and would like to take the editorial helm, feel free to let me (jonathanfwalz@aol.com), Darren (darrenleemiller@gmail.com), or Virginia (virginia.solomon@gmail.com) know. I pledge, however, to remain a faithful and active member of the Queer Caucus! Thank you for the opportunity to work with and among you all.

Yours in queer visuality, Jonathan F. Walz

MEMBER PROFILES



Name: Harmony Hammond

Position: Artist, art writer, independent curator. Professor of Art, University of Arizona 1989-2006. Martial Arts Instructor, Aikido and Tai Chi Chu'an.

Education: B.A. University of Minnesota. 5th Degree Black Belt, Aikido Un En Kai/Hombu.

Books I'm reading now: Patti Smith autobiography and books by friends; *Sightlines* by Nancy Holt; *Seeing Gertrude Stein: Five Stories*, by Tirza and Wanda Corn; *Down Country: The Tano of the Galisteo Basin 1250-1782*, by Lucy Lippard.

Inspirational writers: Jean Genet, Monique Wittig, Luce Irigaray, Trinh T. Minh-ha.

Favorite films: French, Japanese (samurai & yakuza), and Ackerman, Bergman, Tarkovsky.

Visual influences: Tantric art, Navajo rugs, Amazon feather blankets, African sculpture.

Artists to watch: Rebecca Belmore, Leonie Guyer, Liz Magic Laser, Christian Maychack, Angie Piehl, Emily Roysdon, Aili Schmeltz, Gina Siepel, Jonathan Van Dyke, Kate Walker.

Current and selected recent exhibitions: *Against Seamlessness*, solo exhibit of new paintings at Dwight Hackett projects, Santa Fe (Oct 15-Nov 26), accompanied by illus. catalog with essay by Tirza and foreword by Julia Bryan-Wilson, (Radius Press); *Erasing Censorship*, solo exhibit of work dealing with censorship at Left Coast Books, Goleta, CA (Sept 2 – Oct 22); *Pressing Ideas: 50 Years of Women's Lithography from Tamarind*, National Museum of Women in the Arts (thru Oct 2);

Harmony Hammond profile continues next page, left column

Name: Tirza True Latimer

Position: Associate Professor and Chair, Graduate Program in Visual and Critical Studies, California College of the Arts, San Francisco. Independent Curator.

Education: BA in Creative Writing, Sarah Lawrence College, 1972; MA in Art History, University of California, Davis, 1997; PhD in Art History, Stanford University, 2003.

Books I'm reading now: Biography of the Pueblo Revival architect Mary Colter; *Conferences on Situationism* by Guy Debord; Gilles Deleuze, Bergsonism.

Books that inspired me as a student: Monique Wittig, *The Lesbian Body and The Straight Mind*; Luce Irigaray, *This Sex which Is Not One*; Michel Foucault, *History of Sexuality*; Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble* and *Bodies that Matter*; Teresa de Lauretis, *Technologies of Gender*.

Favorite Film: At the moment, *A Separation*, directed by Asghar Farhadi. I am also a fan of Chantal Ackerman, François Ozon, Ang Lee, and Rob Epstein—not to mention Jacques Tati.

Among my favorite artist(s): Berenice Abbott, Kim Anno, Geneviève Asse, Terry Berlier, Lee Bontecou, Louise Bourgeois, Deborah Bright, Kaucyila Brooke, Tammy Rae Carland, Claude Cahun/Marcel Moore, Lenore Chinn, E.G. Crichton, Patricia Cronin, Guy Debord, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Harmony Hammond, Taraneh Hemami, Eva Hesse, Deborah Kass, Catherine Lord, Agnes Martin, Tina Takemoto, Lacey Jane Roberts, and Emily Roysdon.

Past or recent publications and/or exhibitions: *Seeing Gertrude*

Tirza True Latimer profile continues next page, right column

Harmony Hammond profile continued from previous page

Readykeulous (Winter, 2011), Invisible Exports, NYC.

Selected Past publications: *Lesbian Art in America: A Contemporary History* (Rizzoli, 2000); and *Wrappings: Essays on Feminism, Art, and the Martial Arts* (TSL Press, 1984).

Current work: Painting. Printing with Marina Ancona at 10 Grand Street Press. Major projects: finish editing my American Archives of Art interview; complete inventory and data base of my work; collaborate with Tirza on survey exhibition of my “monochrome” paintings; and place my archives in a repository where they will be available to the public for research.

Working habits: 3-6 hour blocks of uninterrupted time in the studio (no phone, no internet, and usually no music). I like to think long thoughtsto listen to my thoughts (it’s sensuous).

Best advice received: Keep the critics out of your head and out of the studio....

Queerest (Art) Experience: Co-grand Marshall (with Delmas Howe) of Albuquerque Pride (2006). Waved like the queen from vintage convertible and led Pride parade to the NM State Fair grounds. It was like the state fair but all queers. Showed art between T-shirts, rainbow beads, baking and canning contests, and drag shows! To my surprise, I even sold a piece!

Dream vacation: with the right girl

Tirza True Latimer profile continued from previous page

Stein: Five Stories (Contemporary Jewish Museum, San Francisco; National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C.), and the companion book, co-authored with Wanda M. Corn (University of California Press). Catalogue essay for the 2011-2012 exhibition *Claude Cahun* (Jeu de Paume, Paris; Virreina Centre de la Image, Barcelona; Art Institute of Chicago). In conversation with Harmony, I wrote the essay for *Against Seamlessness*, an exhibition at Dwight Hackett Projects, Santa Fe.

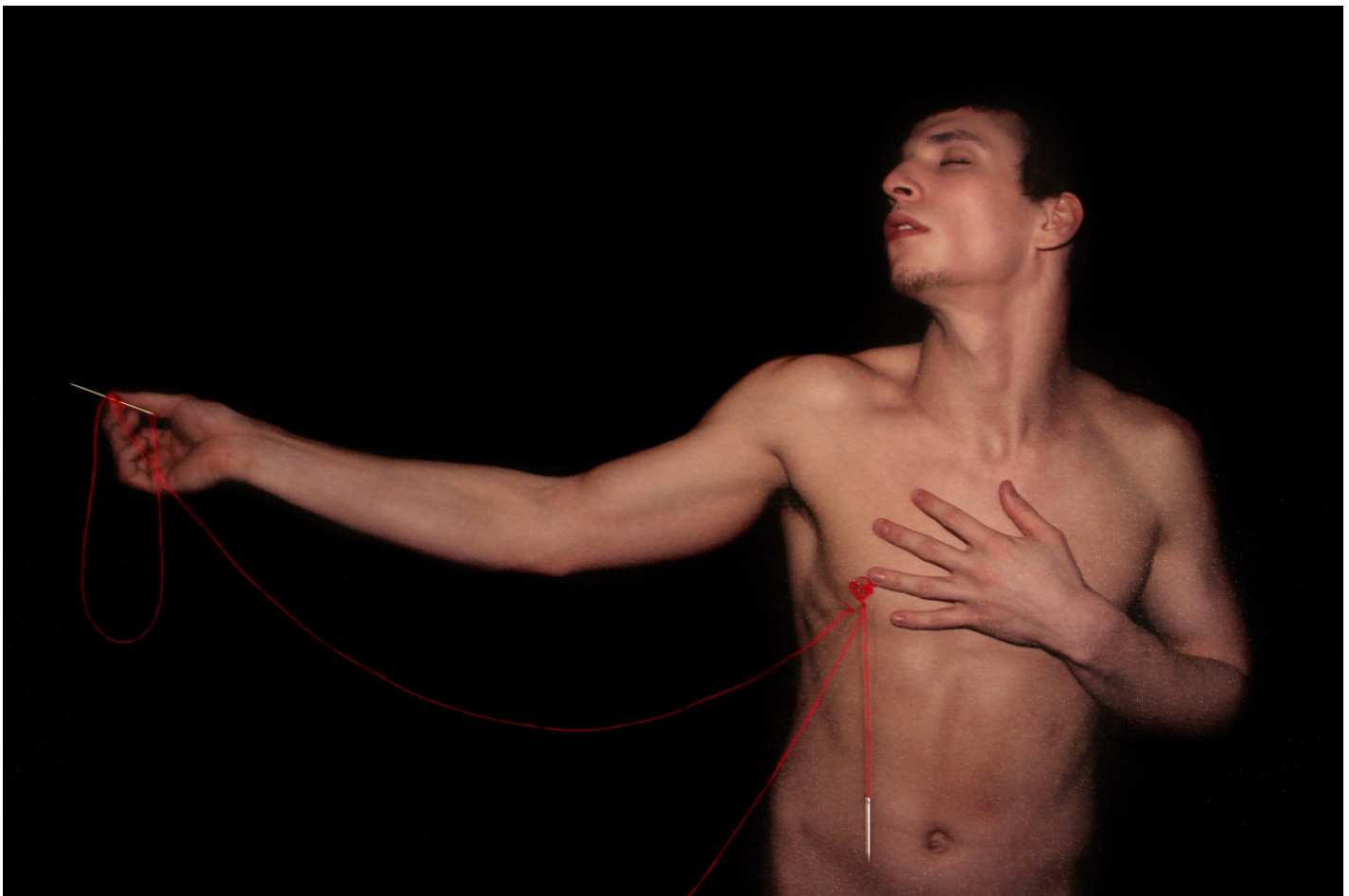
Current work (description of subjects/projects): Working on a study, provisionally titled “Queer Modernism,” about the Neo-Romantics and their networks in America and also on an historical novel about the Pueblo Revival movement.

Forthcoming/future: publications and/or exhibitions: It is my ambition to curate a major exhibition of Harmony Hammond’s recent monochromes and related historical works.

Queerest (Art) Experience: Dyke March, SF, June 2011; Strolling around the Castro and the Mission, brandishing a placard featuring Claude Cahun, in the company of a dozen other dykes whose placards (created by Emily McVarish) paid tribute to inspirational queers.

Best advice received: Learn to say “yes” more judiciously.

Dream vacation: No email.



Sean Gyshe Fennell, *Sewing the Façade: David*, 2011, Digital print on canvas with thread and needles