



Cradling Death

air-dry clay, wire, acrylic, 11x14x4, 2009 - \$950



Magda Trzaski



crocodile

air-dry clay, wire, acrylic, 14x11x4, 2009 - \$825





Peach

air-dry clay, wire, acrylic, 11 x 14 x 4, 2009, \$950





Untitled (heart I)

air-dry clay, wire, acrylic, 11x9x3, 2009 - \$450



Magda Trzaski



Untitled (heart 2)

air-dry clay, wire, acrylic, 11x9x3, 2009 - \$450



Magda Trzaski



Untitled (heart 3)

air-dry clay, wire, acrylic, 11x9x3, 2009 - \$450



Magda Trzaski



Artist Statement

Born 1975.

Magda Trzaski's casts of animal-inspired characters are enclosed under glass in forestalled activity, as strange and newfound specimens might have been in the Victorian era. Balloons float in mid-air as tiny sculptures of gangly limbed and cracked-skinned creatures balance in limbo of attempted escape and despair. There is a looming sense of life floating away, contained momentarily within the shadow boxes. The intricate figures highlight the dark undertones in Trzaski's work, which is heavily influenced by Dutch Vanitas painters, whose aim was to remind us of the inevitability of death, and the transience and vanity of earthly achievements and pleasures. "There is a theme/subtext of death, despair and escape with a dose of cynicism and self-deprecation. Even though I don't take these themes lightly, I think there's definitely a sense of humor in the work" states the artist. Trzaski learned to sew at her grandfather's tailor shop, on vintage, pedal-driven sewing machines, which is probably where her love for antiques and old things—things with history—started. She attended Wexford Collegiate, an art high school in Scarborough, where she studied photography, printmaking, life drawing and sculpture, and where her art interest grew. She studied photography and film in University, where she enjoyed the ability to experiment, attempting animated shorts ala Norman McLaren and Stan Brakhage—painting and/or scratching the film surface or gluing various materials to it. In terms of photography, she always favored still life." The whole memento mori thing started when I discovered the early work of photographers Olivia Parker and Frederick Sommer, among others. My thesis project was a photographic quilt: it dealt with the ideas behind putting together a hope chest. During my spare time I made dolls and various creatures, without seeing the potential of incorporating them into my 'serious' work." Trzaski lives and works in Toronto, she has been exhibiting throughout Canada and the US for the past decade.

Magda Trzaski



Education

BFA New Media, Ryerson University, Toronto, ON

Solo Exhibitions

2009 - Shadows; Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC
2009 - Scotiabank Nuit Blanche; AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON
2008 - Darkest Corners; Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON
2007 - Memento Vivere; C1 Art Space, Toronto, ON
2007 - Carpe Noctem; Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, ON
2007 - Danse Macabre; Prime Gallery, Toronto, ON
2006 - Animam Edere; C1 Art Space, Toronto, ON

Selected Group Exhibitions

2010 - Affordable Art Fair NYC; represented by AWOL Gallery;
2010 - Boring. People. Love. Drills. Carousel Magazine exhibition, LE Gallery, Toronto, ON
2009 - Toronto International Art Fair; represented by Bau-Xi Gallery, Metro Convention Centre, Toronto, ON
2009 - Dark Wish; La Luz De Jesus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2009 - All Dolled Up; C1 Artspace, Toronto, ON
2009 - Everything But The Kitschen Sync; La Luz De Jesus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2008 - Toronto International Art Fair; represented by Bau-Xi Gallery, Metro Convention Centre, Toronto, ON
2008 - Square Foot'08, AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON
2008 - Cream of the Crop; La Luz De Jesus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2008 - Affordable Art Fair; represented by AWOL Gallery, New York, NY
2008 - Red Dot Art Fair; represented by Bau-Xi Gallery, New York, NY
2008 - Everything But The Kitschen Sync; La Luz De Jesus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2008 - From Miami with Love; AWOL Gallery; Toronto, ON
2007 - Bridge Art Fair; AWOL Gallery, Miami, FL
2007 - The Shelf Project '07; C1 Art Space, Toronto, ON
2007 - Shadow Box and Silent Auction; Textile Museum of Canada, Toronto, ON
2007 - Toronto International Art Fair; represented by Bau-Xi Gallery, Metro Convention Centre, Toronto, ON
2007 - Halloween and Vine; Hermann Sons Hall, Petaluma, CA
2007 - Pervasive Art North; LA Petite Mort Gallery, Ottawa, ON
2007 - Artist T-shirts and Tops Show; C1 Art Space, Toronto, ON
2007 - Square Foot'07; AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON
2007 - Affordable Art Fair NYC; represented by AWOL Gallery, Metropolitan Pavilion and Altman Building, NYC
2007 - OCC Award Winners 2007; Ontario Craft Council, Toronto, ON
2007 - 6th Annual Spring Soiree; Earth Angels Toys, Warwick, NY
2007 - MADE modern I art I design I exhibit; The Gladstone Hotel, Toronto, ON
2007 - Stitch: Textiles Beyond Beauty; [lead in the exhibit] The Guild Shop – Ontario Crafts Council, Toronto, ON
2007 - Sex Pots II; Prime Gallery, Toronto, ON
2006 - Small Works; Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC
2006 - Tea Party VI; Prime Gallery, Toronto, ON
2006 - The Shelf Project '06; C1 Art Space, Toronto, ON
2006 - Toronto International Art Fair; represented by Bau-Xi Gallery, Metro Convention Centre, Toronto, ON
2006 - 5th Annual Fall Fete; Earth Angels Toys, Warwick, NY
2006 - Rue Morgue's Festival of Fear; Convention Centre, Toronto, ON
2006 - Square Foot'06; AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON
2006 - 5th Annual Spring Soiree; Earth Angels Toys, Warwick, NY
2006 - Group Exhibition; Prime Gallery; Toronto, ON

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Selected Group Exhibitions (Continued)

2005 - One Of A Kind Show; Exhibition Place, Toronto, ON
2005 - Square Foot NYC; Project Spaceman, New York, NY
2005 - The Shelf Project; C1 Art Space, Toronto, ON
2005 - Carnival Of Curiosities, presented by The Royal Sarcophagus Society; Toronto, ON
2005 - Square Foot'05; AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON
2005 - Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON
2005 - Common Thread 2005; Cicada Gallery, Oakville, ON
2004 - One Of A Kind Show; Exhibition Place, Toronto, ON
2004 - Autumnal Cabinet of Wonders, presented by The Royal Sarcophagus Societ, Toronto, ON
2004 - Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition; Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON
2004 - Artist Open Studio, Oakville, ON
2003 - One Of A Kind Show; Exhibition Place, Toronto, ON
2003 - Autumnal Cabinet of Wonders, presented by The Royal Sarcophagus Society, Toronto, ON
2003 - The Distillery Annual Outdoor Exhibition; Distillery District, Toronto, ON
2003 - Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition; Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON
2003 - DUDE; Latvian House, Toronto, ON
2003 - One of A Kind Spring Show, Exhibition Place, Toronto, ON
2002 - DUDE, Latvian House, Toronto, ON
2002 - One of A Kind Show, Exhibition Place, Toronto, ON
2002 - Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition; Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON
2002 - DUDE; Latvian House, Toronto, ON
2001 - One of A Kind Show, Exhibition Place, Toronto, ON
2001 - Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition; Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON
2001 - Ephemeral, CONTACT Photography Festival, Toronto, ON

Press

HouseOfPomegranates.com, December '08 – 10 Questions With Inspiring People
blogTO.com, November '08-current - Toronto Artist Profile
Mary Engelbreit's Home Companion Magazine, Oct-Nov 2007 - Artist's Workshop feature article
University of Ottawa's FULCRUM, Sept 10, 2007 - The beautiful decay of fine art by Emily Lam
DESCANT 136, Spring 2007 – Dressed as a Rabbit portfolio feature
Toronto's NOW magazine, April 26-May 7, 2007 – Live with culture re: Modern Art Design Exhibit
The Georgia Straight-Vancouver, December 14-21, 2006 – Small Wonders by Robin Lance
National Post, August 19, 2005 – Best of a good bargain by RM Vaughan