

Graham Reese

Interior Designer for Paragon

Design Statement:

Paragon National Bank was an opportunity to reinvent traditional banking design and materials into a calm and graceful interior, while also creating a space that is fluid and inviting. The restraint of simple detailing along with toned architectural materials with rich furniture accents strengthen one another for a timeless, understated environment.

Graham Reese, principal of Graham Reese Design Group, has been a professional interior designer since 1987 and has worked in Memphis since 1992. Reese's other design projects include FedEx Express World Headquarters, Pitt & Barbara Hyde's offices, Pfizer, Folk's Folly and Capelli. He is a member of the International Interior Design Association.



Paragon
NATIONAL BANK

Jay Etkin

“*Primal* [series] grew from Etkin’s recent immersion in mythology and Jungian psychology, material he hadn’t read since he was in his 20s. ‘Now I interpret this as a 54-year-old man,’ he said, ‘not a 24-year-old back in Brooklyn. The paintings are more soul-searching than anything I’ve done.’...”

“Dedicated to abstraction, Etkin depends on intuition to guide his hand and brush, while the techniques of abstraction – layering, scraping, using thin washes, juxtaposing textures – testifies to what he calls ‘faith in the art of painting.’ ”

– Fredric Koepfel, *Commercial Appeal*

For the last 30 years, Jay Etkin has considered community involvement an important facet of his busy art career. As far back as 1971 (having just graduated with an art degree from Brooklyn College in New York), Etkin immersed himself in teaching art classes at inner-city daycare centers throughout New York.

Etkin’s life in Memphis started in 1983 with an exhibition at the Memphis College of Art. He immersed himself in the local art scene, quickly supporting and advocating the rich visual arts talent he encountered here.

Some of his community leadership roles have included special projects chairman for the Memphis Arts Festival for 11 years; member of Memphis Brooks Museum’s Artist Advisory Panel; past board member, South Main Association; and member, South Main Gallery Association.

Selected Solo and Group Exhibitions:

Etkin’s work is in corporate and private collections throughout the United States, Geneva, Switzerland, Israel and Japan. Recent exhibitions have included Elena Zang Gallery, New York, 2005; Power House (Delta/Axis), Memphis, 2004; Harwell Art Museum, Missouri, 2004; Grace Leatherman Gallery, Dallas, 2003; Arts in the Park, named Best in Show, Memphis, 2002; Flowers & Art, Dixon Gallery, Memphis, 2002; Side by Side, Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis, 2002.

Gallery Representation:

Etkin has been the owner and director of the Jay Etkin Gallery (formerly the Cooper St. Gallery) since 1989, www.jayetkingallery.com, 901.543.0035



Primal



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Maysey Craddock

“The exhibition, called *undercurrent*, seeps into our consciousnesses like uneasy and dimly recalled dreams from childhood....

“[This] former Memphian who lives in New Orleans simplifies and pares her method to the bone. She disassembled and flattened and sometimes sewed together paper bags, coated them with gesso (a white primer made of gypsum), and then painted her isolated images with gouache. The result is a provisional truce between reality and memory, a tenuous bridge linking past, present and future.

“The word ‘bridge’ is important because two pieces involving bridges serve as icons for the exhibition. Rendered in child-like manner, the girdered spans of *Ravine* and *The Bridge I Remembered* pass in powerful horizontal lines from nowhere to nowhere. The distressed paper they occupy looks antique, worn, more like an artifact than the background for a picture.”

– Fredric Koeppl, *Commercial Appeal*, 2004

Born in Memphis, Maysey Craddock has a BA in sculpture and anthropology from Tulane University, and an MFA from the Maine College of Art. She has received several awards and honors, most recently, a grant in 2004 from the Louisiana Division of the Arts in Baton Rouge.

Selected Solo and Group Exhibitions:

San Francisco International Fine Art Exposition, San Francisco, 2005; Pan American Gallery, Dallas, 2004; David Lusk Gallery, Memphis, 2004; The Foyer, Munich, 2003; The Park Avenue Armory, New York, 2003; Swan Coach House Gallery, Atlanta, 2001; New Orleans Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, 2000; Karen Mitchell Frank Gallery, Dallas, 1999; Montgomery Museum of Art, Montgomery, 1998; Levy Gallery, Memphis, 1998; Tulane University, New Orleans, 1993.

Collections:

Assisi Foundation, Memphis
Paragon National Bank, Memphis
Pfizer, Memphis
Promus Hotel Corporation Headquarters, Memphis
St. Mary's Episcopal School, Memphis

Gallery Representation:

David Lusk Gallery, www.davidluskgallery.com, 901.767.3800



Summer My River



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Rana Rochat

Artist's Statement:

Spills, stains, scratches and drawings are traces left behind on a surface that leaves clues as to what might have happened. My paintings are reflections of these traces of past actions and urban decay. They emerge from my investigation of implied symbolism and half-hidden histories recorded on marked and abraded surfaces. A map-like construction that charts the transience of the man-made landscape.

I give long and careful consideration to the images and colors I use, but the actual process of making the paintings is intuitive, one of layering, scraping, dripping and marking. It is in this process, painting, handling and manipulation of the wax that I am most engaged.

A native of Memphis, Rana Rochat holds a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design. In addition to her exhibitions, Rochat has also been commissioned by Intercontinental Hotels, Neiman Marcus department stores, and the FedEx Forum.

Selected Solo and Group Exhibitions:

David Lusk Gallery, Memphis, 2005; San Francisco International Fine Art Exposition, San Francisco, 2005; Fay Gold Gallery, Atlanta, 2003; The Armory Show, New York; 2003; Palm Beach Art Fair, Palm Beach, 2003; Affordable Art Fair, New York, 2003; Gallery of Contemporary Art, Portland, 2001; Sandler Hudson Gallery, Atlanta, 2000.

Collections:

Alston & Bird, Atlanta
Blue Point Restaurant, Atlanta
Hyatt Hotels, Washington, D.C.
Neiman Marcus, Dallas & Los Angeles
Paragon National Bank, Memphis
Pfizer, Memphis
Safeco Insurance Company, Atlanta

Gallery Representation:

David Lusk Gallery, www.davidluskgallery.com, 901.767.3800



Untitled L424



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Pam Cobb

A native of Memphis, Pam Cobb has incorporated art into every aspect of her life. Working sculpturally and two-dimensionally, she creates artwork for two galleries and the UrbanArt Commission. A participant in art competitions and exhibitions regionally and nationally for the last 20 years, she stays an active artist.

Cobb is probably best known to many young Memphians for *Bookmarkers*, her sculpture at the Cordova branch library. A lifelong Memphian, she was born at St. Joseph Hospital, raised in the Sherwood Forest neighborhood, and was a student at Sherwood Elementary School and Messick High School. She holds a BA in English, and an MFA in painting from the University of Memphis. She spent several years on the CBU art faculty.

Selected Solo Exhibitions and Honors:

NorDys Gallery, Birmingham, 2005; Tennessee Arts Commission, Nashville, 1999; Gallery of Franklin, Franklin, 1999; Best of the South exhibition, Hilton Head Island, 1997; Special Projects Exhibition (1st Place), Memphis Arts Festival, 1997; Fogelman Executive Center, University of Memphis, 1995; Christian Brothers University Gallery, Memphis, 1993; Columbia Club, Indianapolis, 1986.

Gallery Representation:

Jay Etkin Gallery, www.jayetkingallery.com, 901.543.0035
NorDys Gallery, www.nordysgallery.com, 205.328.7126



Backwaters



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Warren Greene

Artist's Statement:

Much of my work begins by applying opaque, horizontally layered paint. An electric sander is then used to reveal, conceal and flatten the layers. Finally, a multitude of transparent layers are applied. Between each layer, the surface is scored. The resulting complexity is subtle. The closer one moves to the picture plane, the flatter and more complex it becomes. Yes, the process is meticulous, but it's also gestural. What I left are traces on a ground, a sort of grounding upon a way of moving.

Warren Greene received his BA from Freed-Hardeman University in Henderson, Tennessee, and his MFA from the Memphis College of Arts in Memphis. He has earned several awards including a Professional Painting Award from Trans Financial Art Exhibit in Clarksville, Tennessee, and the Department of Fine Arts Outstanding Artist Award from Freed-Hardeman University.

Selected Solo and Group Exhibitions:

Perry Nicole Fine Art, Memphis, 2004; Union University, Jackson, 2004; Roxy Theater, Clarksville, 1999; Trahern Gallery, Clarksville, 1998; Trans Financial Art Exhibit, Clarksville, 1998; Hutcheson Gallery, Nashville, 1997.

Gallery Representation:

Perry Nicole Fine Art, www.perrynicole.com, 901.405.6000



Replace



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Pamela Hassler

Artist's Statement:

My first creative experience was in dance choreography. That love of movement still runs through my work. As an abstract artist, the source of my imagery comes not from the world I see with my eyes, but from the images that appear in my mind, both awake and asleep. I have worked in metal, vitreous enamel fired on metal, oil, acrylics and combinations of those materials. I have used whatever would best express mental images whose source for me is mysterious, spiritual and eternal.

Pam Hassler received her BFA from the Memphis College of Arts in Memphis, an MS from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, and an MFA from the Instituto Allende in San Miguel de Allende in Mexico. She has taught at several schools, including the University of Tennessee, Instituto Allende in Mexico, the Appalachian Center for Crafts and the University of Memphis.

Selected Solo and Group Exhibitions:

Jay Etkin Gallery, Memphis, 2005; Joysmith Gallery, Memphis, 2004; Madison Art Center, Madison, 2002; Hunger Museum of Art, Chattanooga, 2002; The Bell Gallery, Memphis, 1996; Albers Fine Art Gallery, Memphis, 1988.

Collections:

Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts, Gatlinburg
Assisi Foundation, Memphis
Baptist Memorial Hospital-DeSoto County, Southaven
Dean Witter Investments, Memphis
First Bank of Arkansas, Searcy
Paragon National Bank, Memphis
Tennessee State Museum, Nashville
Union Planters National Bank corporate offices, Cordova

Gallery Representation:

Jay Etkin Gallery, www.jayetkingallery.com, 901.543.0035



Face to Face



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Ephraim Urevbu

Artist's Statement:

As the Sun Sets is one of the many pieces in this series that look at life through Creation. The sun is a major inspiration to me, and I use its journey through the day to depict life's journey (the sunset represents the golden years of life). I have used this beautiful creation of God to reflect on life's beauty and sadness. In the blink of an eye it's over, so I urge my viewers to make hay before the sun sets.

Ephraim Urevbu was born in Warri, Nigeria. He moved to Memphis in 1979 to study art at Memphis College of Art, and later at the University of Memphis, where he earned his BFA and MFA. He opened his own gallery in 1990 on Beale Street, eventually moving to the South Main Historic District and naming the space Art Village Gallery.

Selected Awards and Honors:

Best of Show, 25th Los Olas Art Museum Festival, Ft. Lauderdale
Certificate of Excellence, Bill Clinton, Governor of Arkansas
Selected Artist, 1989 Memphis in May Festival
Vision Award, Memphis Center City Commission

Collections:

Federal Express, Inc., Memphis
Madison Hotel, Memphis
Methodist Hospital South, Memphis
National Civil Rights Museum, Memphis
Paragon National Bank, Memphis
WolfChase Galleria, Memphis (commissioned mural)
Women's Pride Restaurant Group, Lagos, Nigeria

Gallery Representation:

Art Village Gallery, www.artvillagegallery.com, 901.521.0782



As the Sun Sets



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