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Flatchestedmama Makes a Color Commitment

Gray is not associated with a bloom. As a mental state, it's indecisive. As an emotion, it calls for pharmaceuticals. If it were a building, no rocks would be hurled at its windows, but neither would they be cleaned. Jasper Johns, the ice man of contemporary art, made it work for him, but few have followed his lead, outside of the Northwest.



Flatchestedmama embraces gray

Naturally enough, given the weather, gray is historically big with regional painters. Local performance artists haven't shown much interest, however, till now. Along with photos of her day at the beach, Amy-Ellen "Flatchestedmama" Trefsaer is giving gray a go in a performance at Grey Gallery and Lounge on Capitol Hill.

Her plan is gray on gray in Grey: I'll be holding Color Court on Saturday, May 17th, 4:00 p.m. at Grey Gallery and Lounge: 1512 11th Ave Seattle, WA 98122. For those of you who don't know, I am currently in the midst of my 2nd Monochromatic May, where I wear nothing but grey clothing for the month (underclothing and accessories included). Color Court is a way for you, the viewer, to participate in what is allowed in my wardrobe. To date, 3-4 items from the wardrobe have been disputed by the general public with statements like, "that scarf looks blue/grey" or, "there's too much white in those shoes." All items that receive any color dispute are up for review at Color Court. If the items are found to be in Contempt of Color Court (by majority vote) they will be placed in the Color Corrections bin and not be worn again. Your Clerks of Color Court will be the lovely Amanda Mae and Darla Rae Barry Benson.

My story on her marriage to herself is here. Her work might sound like pompous nonsense, but it grows on you. As G.I. Joe likes to say, "Resistance is futile!"

Posted by Regina Hackett at May 12, 2008 9:07 p.m.

COMMENTS

Posted by Marulis at 5/14/08 9:21 a.m.

#128664

Well, we've certainly got Oprah, and we've all experienced chickflicks and ever since this Artist married herself (or her mail, OK with me, she can do what she wants)I suppose we have a chickart thing going on. Trying on clothes doesn't always resonate with the guys so we probably won't go shopping with you. The Artist does make a nice looking one-legged lady in grey though.

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Regina Hackett: P-I art critic



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Posted by **unregistered user** at 5/14/08 3:50 p.m. #128862

Hooooooooot!!!! This is rad!

Static Invasion

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Posted by **unregistered user** at 5/14/08 11:37 p.m. #129058

"Resistance is futile" is from Star Trek, not G.I.Joe. And G.I.Joe's not actually a person/character who would be able to say any such catch phrase. G.I.Joe is actually the name of the team. Kind of like how there's not a Transformer named "Transformer" or a Libertarian named "Libertarian". Well, maybe there is.

In any event, Flatchestedmama rocks. I love Monochromatic May!

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Posted by **Marulis** at 5/15/08 10:44 a.m. #129182

I have a curiosity towards something. It's just a thing, really, nothing big or earthshaking but a curiosity nonetheless. I wonder sometimes about arts critics, thier motivations and the subjects that manage to pique thier interest with enough force to prompt them to make public comment.

I'll have to admit, I do on occassion tend to look favorably upon Ms. Regina Hackett. I've somehow come to believe that Regina possesses a soul, a bit of an Artist's soul, which sometimes causes her to act in a kindly, maybe reckless, but surely maternal way towards some.

So, I have a question which has nagged at me fo a while and this flatchested momma post would seem an opportune moment to bring up the subject.

There was a gallery which opened a few years back in Fremont, the name of which escapes me now. Regina wrote a review of this space in which she described this addition to the Seattle arts scene as indispensable.

I wondered on that description, "indispensable", and determined myself to eventually visit this gallery and learn the reason for that critic's gushing enthusiasm.

Well I don't move real quick on things but I did get there and I found a little venue of fun and interesting art but I didn't notice anything which moved me to the feeling of "indispensable".

One piece of 'found art', very freshly found, I discovered, was a piece of interesting looking driftwood that was hanging on a far wall. Upon close examination by myself and a friend who was with me revealed that this piece of driftwood was indeed alive with a community of insects and sandfleas. I determined right away that this was the best thing I had seen hanging on those walls. To hang a living, breathing, and if you brought it home, invasive piece of sculpture on the wall. The thought of it being alive as it hung there gave me a chuckle to be sure.

But, getting back to the point. What, if anything, moved Regina to proclaim this gallery as indispensable?The gallery itself is no longer there and of course as is learned in life, we are all expendable.

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Posted by **Regina Hackett** at 5/15/08 4:51 p.m. #129322

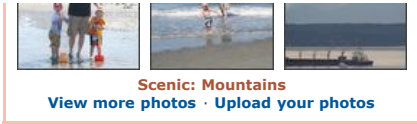
Hello 058: While I hate to argue about toys, I believe Joe worked it into his limited repertory, quoting Trek. I know because one of those Joes had his voice box exchanged with Barbie's and became part of art.

And Marulis: You're thinking of Priceless Works. I wrote that when Seattle seemed to be in a bit of an art slump, and PW had a pulse. Also, I really liked the show up at the time, I believe, Rob Zverina, and yes, Rob aside, it's excessive, even at the time.

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Posted by **Marulis** at 5/16/08 10:21 a.m. #129500

Regina, I not so sure that it was excessive. That great little piece of driftwood aside, critics being human are entitled to bouts of enthusiasm. Such a frailty is one aspect that can make professional criticism interesting. Some folks who write about art have a tendency to drone on academically in



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such a banal manner that my eyes will tear over and I'll walk away in a dead trance. I enjoy the opportunity to peer into an open window of the writer's personality and speculate on intent.

As for flatchested mamma. She seems to have a bit more up on the second floor than her moniker's inference would indicate. Also, I'm inclined to assume that this is a savy Artist who has identified her niche and is playing to it. Needless to say, there is a ready market out there that will eagerly attach itself just as the older female population of America has found itself drawn to the Oprah show. Pronounce her the young Oprah of art.

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