

Survey of the Magnolia Tapestry Project at the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art

Weaving Weft and Warp

July 23 through September 17, 2004.

Opening July 23 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art

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<http://www.sjica.org/exhibitions/tapestries/tapestries.htm>

This summer the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art is presenting an overview and sampling of Magnolia Editions Tapestry Project publications. All works have been produced since the completion of our original tapestry project with John Nava, his *Procession of the Saints* and *Baptism* tapestries for the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles. The museum is showing tapestries by Squeak Carnwath, Bruce Conner, Lewis deSoto, Donald & Era Farnsworth, Rupert Garcia, Joseph Goldyne, Leon Golub, Alan Magee, Nancy Spero, Darren Waterston, Katherine Westerhout and William Wiley. This is the first time these tapestries will be seen in one venue.



Alan Magee's tapestry on the loom - Belgium, 2004

Interweaving the Arts at SJICA

On **Thursday, August 26**, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, SJICA hosts *Interweaving the Arts*. **Donald Farnsworth** will discuss his experiments with new processes in weaving and his creative collaborations with contemporary artists. This discussion will be accompanied by a fast-paced multi-media production created by Farnsworth.



Bruce Conner - *BLINDMAN'S BLUFF*, 2003 - Tapestry, 101 x 90 in.

Bruce Conner Tapestry Show at Michael Kohn Gallery

The Michael Kohn Gallery in Los Angeles displayed Conner's large grey scale tapestries against walls painted a rich teal blue. The exhibit garnered some interesting reviews, including one from ArtTalk, where the reviewer fantasizes about being able to purchase one of Conner's tapestries, www.magnoliaeditions.com/Content/Installation/F00018.html (review appears below the image).

A second, rather poetic, review by Holly Myers, Special to the LA Times, appears below the image on this link: www.magnoliaeditions.com/Content/Installation/F00017.html.

View more images of the Conner show at Michael Kohn Gallery and other installed Magnolia Editions art by clicking on our new *Installations* section on the *Artists* page. www.magnoliaeditions.com/Content/Installation/Installation.htm.



THANGKA I, 2004 - Tapestry, 82 x 54 in.

Artists' Statement: Restoring an image of Buddha

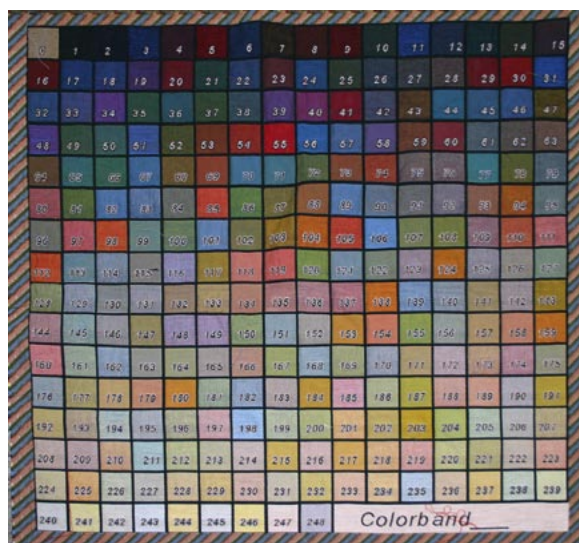
by Donald & Era Farnsworth

Peace, enlightenment, an end to suffering, we are drawn to the Buddha and what the Buddha represents in these violent days. This is not a unique perspective at this time, when most of the world prays for peace. This image is adapted from a small, very old, very fragile Tibetan thangka, painted on cotton. Much of the paint has flaked off, leaving sometimes a thin film, sometimes a stain, and areas of no image at all. The ancient thangka has a muddy green hue to it, as if one is looking at it through an algae-colored filter. We speculate this is from centuries of exposure to smoke from incense or yak butter candles. However, the image itself is painted with great skill and devotion. It is a pleasure and a privilege to be able to repaint and restore this beautiful image; enlarging it to 4 times its original size and adapting it for the loom, inpainting missing areas with resaturated colors, and giving it new life in the body of a sturdy, durable cotton Jacquard tapestry. Our goal in Thangka I is to restore the image while keeping the *sabi*, the type of beauty that develops only with age.

Thangka I can be seen at the SJICA show, info above; Edith Caldwell Gallery in Sausalito, California; and Sloan Miyasato in San Francisco, California.

Working Trip to Belgium

This last March found Donald and Era Farnsworth in Belgium at the tapestry mill. The trip was both productive and instructive. The Farnsworths brought new images from Alan Magee, Robert Kushner, Chuck Close, Darren Waterston, Mel Ramos, Squeak Carnwath, The Art Guys, as well as the Farnsworths' own work, and were able to work with the Belgian weavers to produce new tapestries which take advantage of all parties' increasing knowledge and experience with these new tapestry processes. To view some of the new tapestry images, please go to: www.magnoliaeditions.com/Content/Tap/Tap.htm



Woven color palette

One outcome of the time spent in Belgium is the development of experimental thread combinations resulting, after our considerable efforts, in new palettes of colors. In this 40-inch example there are 8 warp colors, each repeating 1000 times, interweaving with 8 repeating weft colors. Choice of thread color, diameter and fiber content produce strikingly different results. Creating the construction of the weave and assembling the colors is a time-consuming undertaking. From the original weaving in March, this distillation of colors was completed at the end of June.

Squeak Carnwath has painted maquettes as studies for new tapestries which will be using this brighter palette of new thread choices. This palette is also being tested for new works by Guy Diehl, John Nava and Don & Era Farnsworth.

John Nava is currently in Belgium working on new commissions and continuing the effort to incorporate gold and silver threads into the mix.

New print publications

www.magnoliaeditions.com/Content/NewPub/NewPub.htm



John Nava - *Untitled*, 2004 - Etching, 9.5 x 13 in.

Printer Brian Caraway, assisted by George Pfau, is in the process of completing two small editions of etchings by **John Nava**. Nava's unerring line is again apparent in these exquisitely executed etchings of nudes.

Also in the editioning stages is a mixed media etching by **Rupert Garcia** to be included in a portfolio of artists' prints to be shown next year at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington DC. The exhibit will later travel to museums and galleries around the country.

New Publications by Guy Diehl in his series of Still Lives include: *Still Life with Raphaelle Peale* and *Still Live with Malevich*.

Ongoing and other projects: Pigment on canvas images of West Oakland streetscapes for **Christine Eudoxie's** show in the fall at Braunstein/Quay Gallery.

In June, **Joseph Goldyne** spent a week working on a series of intaglio and lithographic monoprints. His working title for this series is *Valori Plastici*.

Katherine Westerhout is producing pigmented ink prints for her upcoming show at Oakland's Cultural Arts Gallery.

Jim Melchert, Jamie Brunson and **Katherine Westerhout** produced installation proposals for the upcoming new construction at the Oakland Airport.

Where to see more Works from Magnolia Editions:

High Fiber, an exhibition exploring the intersection of digital technology and fiber-based artworks, Kala Art Institute, 1060 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-549-2977, www.kala.org. Tapestries by Donald & Era Farnsworth, Nancy Spero and Katherine Westerhout through July 17, 2004.

Magnolia Editions, Fine Art Prints & Tapestry, Paula Brown Gallery, Toledo, OH, 419-241-2822. Featuring works by: Guy Diehl, Rupert Garcia, Gus Heinze, Charles Hobson, David Settino Scott, Dan McCleary, Mark Stock, Donald Farnsworth, Era Farnsworth, Diogenes Lucero, Rick Dula and the late John Register through July 31, 2004.

Contemporary Tapestries, Edith Caldwell Gallery, 819 Bridgeway, Sausalito, CA 94965, 415-331-5003.

Tapestries by Squeak Carnwath, Alan Magee and Donald & Era Farnsworth.



Squeak Carnwath - *Everyday*, 2004 - Tapestry, 81 x 82 in.

Magnolia Editions, San Jose Museum Café Gallery, 110 South Market Street, San Jose, CA 95113, 408-271-6840.

Featuring works by: Bruce Conner, Guy Diehl, Donald Farnsworth, Donald & Era Farnsworth, Stephen Galloway, John Register and Robert Hudson, Richard Shaw & William Wiley through the end of September 2004.



Robert Kushner - *Dark River*, 2004 - Tapestry, 41 x 82 in.

Robert Kushner, Yoshiaki Inoue Gallery, Osaka, Japan. Tel: 06-245-5378. Robert Kushner's *Dark River* tapestry.

Selected Works, Modernism Gallery, 685 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, 415-541-0461. Featuring Mel Ramos' *Val Veeta* tapestry, through August 14, 2004.

Eastern Exposure, curated by Michelle Bello Fine Art at Sloan Miyasato, 2 Henry Adams Street, San Francisco, CA 94103, 415-431-1465. Featuring tapestries by Robert Kushner and Donald & Era Farnsworth; prints by Katherine Westerhout.

Alan Magee, *Three Decades of Painting, Sculpture and Graphics*, Farnsworth Art Museum, 16 Museum Street, Rockland, ME 04841, 207-596-6457 through September 6, 2004. The retrospective continues its travels to The Museum of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 10/3/04 to 1/2/05 and the Frye Art Museum, Seattle, WA, 1/29/05 to 4/24/05. This overview of Mr. Magee's work includes several of his tapestries produced by the Magnolia Tapestry Project. See www.alanmagee.com under "News" for more information.

Rupert Garcia's, *LaXochitl IV* tapestry at BayWolf Restaurant, 3853 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland, CA 510-655-6004.

Robert Charles Dunahay's *Copper Palm* tapestry at Skidmore Contemporary Art, 3835 Cross Creek Road, Malibu, CA 90265, 310-456-5070

Upcoming Shows:

Rupert Garcia - *What's Going On? – California and the Vietnam War*, The Oakland Museum of California, The Great Hall, www.museumca.org Aug 28, '04 through Feb 27, '05. **Garcia's** work from the late '60s to mid '70s will also be seen at the *San Juan Triennial* in Puerto Rico this fall.

Element of Temporary 5, temporary tattoo parlor performance art & installation, **Brian Caraway**, Magnolia Editions printer, in collaboration with Jos Pollard, The San Francisco Art Commission Gallery, 401 Van Ness @ McAllister. One night only, August 20, 2004.

Magnolia Tapestry Project Show at Bank of America Headquarters, 555 California Street, San Francisco, California, September 3 through the end of October 2004.

Katherine Westerhout tapestries and photographic prints at the Cultural Arts Gallery State Building, 1515 Clay Street-Atrium, Oakland, California, September 13 through the end of October 2004.

Christine Eudoxie at Braunstein/Quay Gallery, 430 Clementina, San Francisco, CA 94103, 415-278-9850, October 13 through November 13, 2004

Guy Diehl, Hunsaker/Schlesinger Fine Art, Bergamont Station T-3, 2525 Michigan Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90404, 310-828-1133, November 6 through December 18, 2004.