

# FALL Newsletter 06

As always, we'd like to open this newsletter with a big heartfelt THANK YOU to those of you who have supported us and our mission.

FUNCTION+Art

What an incredibly busy year – you may have noticed we didn't get around to a Summer Newsletter. So far this year, we've done 3 offsite exhibitions, plus 7 shows, and we still have another opening and SOFA yet to go!

Next up: **"Ingrained Passion"**, our first exhibition focused on wood since '99. Wood is a special medium – often the inherent beauty of the material simply needs to be unleashed for an artist to have created something extraordinary. The show runs Oct. 20, thru Nov. 30. The gallery will be open during SOFA, so make sure you stop in! Preview inside.

Coming up in February, we'll once again feature luminous paintings by **Jill Henry**. If you missed her sell-out show last April, this will be your chance to catch a fantastic new talent – early.

Also on tap for 2007: our acclaimed **"Vessels, Boxes, & Baskets"** Invitational, a continued focus on Studio Furniture, and as always, a few surprises.

At PRISM, our **Anniversary Invitational** continues to receive high compliments, and many of the sculptures featured in the catalog have already found new homes. Inside, you'll find images of a few special works that didn't make the catalog, but no less deserve your attention.

Arriving too late for the Invitational, but certainly worth a look, are the hot-sculpted cloud & rain-like Cumulonimbus series wall installations from Beth Fishman, Bridget Boss' colorful blown and graffiti-covered vessel studies, and Salatino/Gandolfo's carved platters and vessels. I've also recently discovered some fantastic new cane work - you've never seen anything like it! Created by a Ph.D. in Biochemistry, this work manifests his love of cellular biology in the permanent medium of glass – and we're the lucky beneficiaries.

If you're attending SOFA, make sure to visit the gallery - you'll be thrilled you did!

PRISM Contemporary

## In This Issue

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**Greetings & Intro** ..... p. 1

**Ingrained Passion** at Function+Art.....p. 2

**Anniversary Invitational** at PRISM ..... p. 3

**SOFA Preview** ..... p. 4

## SOFA Events

### Afro Celotto Demonstrations

Friday, November 10 - 3:30 p.m.  
Saturday, November 11 - 12:30 p.m.

### Book Signing / Autograph Session

Saturday, November 11 - 12 noon

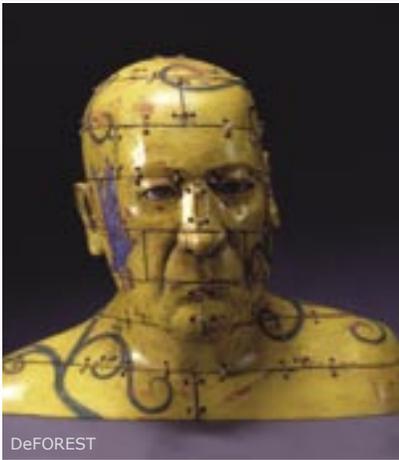
### Gallery Brunch

Sunday, November 12 - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

If you can't visit us at SOFA Chicago or the gallery, please check our websites:

[www.functionart.com](http://www.functionart.com)  
[www.prismcontemporary.com](http://www.prismcontemporary.com)

# FUNCTION + ART



DeFOREST



PASCAL



PHO/MAILLAND

**Ingrained Passion** will feature sculpture, turnings, and furniture from a host of artists – many of whom are new to us... and several of those are likely new to you, as well. We're excited by the variety, the quality, and the beauty of the objects we'll feature. In this exhibition, you will find wood manipulated in many ways: turned, laminated, carved, assembled, dyed, inlaid, pierced, painted, oiled, waxed and hewn.

We've included just a few images here, but please visit our website after the opening for the full catalog of works. Overall, more than a dozen artists' works will be featured: turned bowls, sculpture, furniture... and a surprise or two along the way. Featured artists will hail from the four corners of the USA: Michael Mode (VT), Avelino Samuel (USVI), Christopher Cantwell (CA), and Michael DeForest (OR). In keeping with Chicago Artists Month, Chicago will be represented by Binh Pho, of Maple Park, IL.



ROBINSON

As an interesting counterpoint, we'll be featuring Chicagoan Dennis Lee Mitchell (courtesy of Dubhe Carreno gallery) who sculpts birch trees... out of welded clay.

As several of our artists work with wood but make it look like something else, we thought we'd turn the tables a bit.



MITCHELL

I've talked before about our commitment to emerging and underrepresented artists. As proof, consider that our Anniversary Invitational includes 6 artists for whom we are currently the only US representation, and another 5 who are carried by only 1 or 2 other galleries. Each of these artists is a fresh voice-doing excellent, accessible work.

In particular, you may have noticed the cover of the **2nd Anniversary Invitational** catalog- a detail of a piece by Jessica Cope. Below, find an image of the actual installation, with over 300 individual glass elements.

Henry Hillman Jr. is a perfect example of the "underrepresented artist". He may be a familiar name to some of you... he's

exhibited for a number of years, but relatively sporadically, and mostly in "fine arts" galleries. While most of his works retail in the \$20k range, he graciously made a trio of works just for our exhibition, including the small "Counter-bevel" pictured. He's gaining momentum... don't be left behind.

Peter Houk and Jeff Wallin are also recent additions who come to glass from the world of drawing and painting. Their subject matter differs, (Houk choosing the built environment and Wallin the human figure) but their common painterly approach results in a fresh vocabulary. Another fresh approach to the human figure is typified by Kimberly Haugh, whose almost-abstracted, freeze-framed 3D portraits range from seductive to haunting.



WALLIN



HOUK



HAUGH



HILLMAN



COPE

# SOFA Chicago 2006

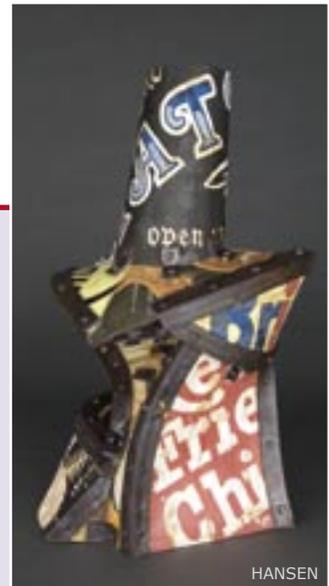
Booth No. 425 - Friday, November 10 - Sunday, November 12

This year, we'll again focus on fine studio furniture: a table, clock and mirror from Brent Skidmore; a lovely wall cabinet from Bonnie Bishoff and JM Syron; a Czech-Cubism inspired desk, jewelry cabinet and clock from Chris Martin. Chris is a rising star- he has been featured in several publications, has exhibited nationally, and won the Juror's Award from juror Michael Monroe in "Materials Hard & Soft" (2005) and numerous Niche Awards. His recent visit to the Czech Republic has informed his work with a new influence, which Chris manages to blend with his Midwestern roots and love of Japanese aesthetics. The result is work that is sculptural and statuesque in nature, but ultimately functional – the true definition of functional art.



FUNCTION+Art

In a new twist, we will also showcase Steve Hansen's ceramic stacks. They are loosely based on the iconic shape found in many works by Voukos, and are very impressive- not only from a technical standpoint; they are also physically powerful, strong visually and artistically, conveying their messages (working with a coded language of symbols) in the guise of pop art. These works can be understood and appreciated for purely for their technical merits or for the nostalgia associated with icons of advertising, but there are other levels of understanding available to those who choose to tease them out.



Also – we have already congratulated several of our artists for their inclusion in *500 Glass Objects*, by Lark Books. At SOFA, we'll have an autograph session at 12 noon on Saturday, the 11th at our booth (#425), with Janet Kelman, Scott Schroeder and more.



PRISM Contemporary

As last year, we will also have Afro Celotto delighting the crowd with a pair of demos at the Corning Hotglass Roadshow. Currently, he's scheduled for Friday 3:30-4:30 pm and Saturday 12:30-1:30pm. We'll post the final schedule on our website once confirmed... please check before you head to Navy Pier so you don't miss him!



**SOFA:** This year, **FUNCTION+Art** returns to RawSpace with an elegant sculpture, "Prow" from acclaimed sculptor John Medwedeff. Executed in steel, with a painted finish, this 13' tall creation is sure to be an exceptional centerpiece to your personal or corporate landscaping.

