

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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The Summer Show: works by The Dallas Contemporary members
& Critic's Choice: ***Dana Friis-Hansen***, Executive Director, Austin Museum of Art
June 25 ~ August 14, 2004

Mix! Series: ***Baseera Kahn***
funded in part by Texas Commission on the Arts

Hallworks: ***Diane Walker-Gladney***
sponsored by Hall Financial Group

3 D on Swiss: ***David Elizondo***

Opening reception

Friday, June 25, 2004, 8 ~ 9 pm

This was my first exhibition. It gave me a framework for judging my progress as an artist! [It] provided confidence to present my work to the public. Last year my piece was noticed by a gallery owner and shown elsewhere. With few exceptions, the artists' responses to last year's membership exhibition were enthusiastic.

"Hands down, this is the way to see a large body of work by working Dallas artists," claims Director Joan Davidow about The Dallas Center for Contemporary Art's [The Dallas Contemporary] annual exhibition featuring the works of its members. "The expanse of works in this exhibition attests to the pure joy of creation; the proof that these artists must make art!"

Guest critic **Dana Friis-Hansen, Executive Director, Austin Museum of Art**, will be selecting five (5) member artists of merit each to have a small focus exhibition in *Hallworks 2005* at The Dallas Contemporary.

Each year, The Dallas Contemporary invites its artist members to select one of their most significant pieces created during the year to be exhibited. The exhibition acknowledges the desire of all artists to have their art exhibited in a professional setting, so their work will have a public viewing.

The largest show of the year, the exhibition features over 225 artworks by artist members. To respect the dignity of the work, give it a cohesiveness, and allow proper space around it, the works are bound by a 96" perimeter. "It is always interesting to see how many different ways the outer dimension appears. Maybe an artist will create a work that is 46 x 2" in size!" muses Davidow.

Director Davidow installs the exhibition by arranging the related works together. The exhibition becomes shows-within-a-show, featuring landscape, still life, the figure, abstractions, and works on paper. All art mediums, from drawing and painting, printing and photography to sculpture and mixed media will be on view. "Uncluttered, clean, and logical; a slick professional air of presentation," report the participating artists.

Mix! Series: Baseera Kahn

funded in part by Texas Commission on the Arts

Khan is a Denton artist and BFA candidate at the University of North Texas, whose family comes from India. Her photographic transfers deal with the contradiction of strict traditions at home and American cultural freedom.

Hallworks: Diane Walker-Gladney

Lewisville artist, Walker-Gladney's small sized grid of images relates to her role as a woman, often incorporating collage and found materials.

3 D on Swiss: David Elizondo

San Antonio, Elizondo's environmental installation in the garden is a constructed environment that has the freshness of folk art.

The Dallas Contemporary *presents Texas artists-of-our-day to engage audiences to think in new ways.*

The Dallas Contemporary is free and open Tuesday ~ Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm and is located in the Wilson Historic District north of Deep Ellum on Swiss Avenue, three blocks east of Good Latimer. Please call 214-821-2522 or email info@thecontemporary.net. **Major funding:** City of Dallas, Office of Cultural Affairs; Mix! Series ~ Texas Commission on the Arts.

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