

Flow & Flux, (diptych) 2005, gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 60 x 76 inches. Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.

Threshold, 2005, gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 78 1/2 x 38 inches. Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.

Site-Specific Installation, 2005, gouache, ink, and paper applied directly on gallery walls. Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.

Small Framed Drawings

All works (2001-04), gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 7 3/4 x 11 1/2 inches

Little Flower, Collection of Esther and John Tanaka, Los Angeles.

Untitled, Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.

Untitled, Collection of Zoe Aguirre, Los Angeles.

Syndrome, Collection of Yorgos Tsibiridis and Alicia De Fronze, New York.

Dear Ego. . ., Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.

Looking for the Pot o Honey, Collection of Yorgos Tsibiridis and Alicia De Fronze, New York.

Fish out of Water, Collection of Charlotte and Bill Ford, New York.

The Thaw, Collection of Patrick Heide and Hayden Dunbar, London/NewYork.

You'd Never Think, Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.

Offerings Series, 2005, all works gouache and ink on paper, 4 x 3 inches. Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.

1. Gripe 2. Yes 3. Bamboo Princess 4. Synchronistic Tune 5. In Gratitude 6. Necessary Defense 7. Untitled 8. What's Mine (Is Yours) 9. Sixth Sense 10. Hothead 11. Regal 12. Growing Pains 13. Tresses 14. Bandaged 15. Untitled 16. Bursting With. . . 17. Not Until You Get It 18. Jester 19. Idyllic Wonder 20. Untitled 21. Brat 22. Pilgrimage 23. Harpie 24. To The Rescue 25. Afloat 26. The Good Girl 27. This One Direction 28. Head Protection 29. She Attempts

A full-color catalog published by the Contemporary, featuring essays by Shannon Fitzgerald, Sue Spaid, and Tyler Stallings, accompanies the exhibition.

Panel Discussion: Art & Femininity May 12
Shannon Fitzgerald, Ruby Osorio, Sue Spaid, and Tyler Stallings
Reception 6 pm, Discussion 7 pm

Ruby Osorio: Story of a Girl (Who Awakes Far, Far Away) is organized by Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis and curated by Shannon Fitzgerald.

Funding for the exhibition and catalog has been generously provided by the Whitaker Foundation; Baer Foundation; Regional Arts Commission; Arts & Education Council; Durfee Foundation; Los Angeles; and Friends of the Museum, with in-kind support from cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles, and the Chase Park Plaza Hotel.

The Contemporary would like to extend thanks and appreciation to the lenders of the exhibition and to Mary Leigh Cherry of cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles, for her assistance in making this exhibition possible.

Image: Bunny Collective, 2004, gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 4 panels, 60 x 44 inches. Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.



CONTEMPORARYARTMUSEUMSTLOUIS

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RUBY OSORIO: STORY OF A GIRL (WHO AWAKES FAR, FAR AWAY)

March 18 - June 12, 2005

CONTEMPORARYARTMUSEUMSTLOUIS



Ruby Osorio: Story of a Girl (Who Awakes Far, Far Away)

In her first solo museum exhibition, Los Angeles-based artist Ruby Osorio has created an enchanting, magical environment based on her unique drawings and works on paper. A series of gouache paintings on paper that incorporate thread and ink present this young artist's exploration into female identity and its construction through whimsy with a punch. Osorio makes connections between the ephemeral nature of the medium and a distinctly feminine psyche.

While considering the enduring hold fairy tales have on contemporary culture, this exhibition enables us to respond to allegory, myth, and fantasy as presented in narrative form, "the story of a girl." Osorio's stories refer to the physical and psychological dimensions of feminine awakening and escapism as experienced by contemporary heroines and girl collectives. Each story occurs in "far, far away" utopian spaces, where it is safe for girls to indulge fantasy, explore sexuality, and truly awake without shame or hesitation, and hopefully with a little joy.

In Osorio's landscapes—as in any good Hans Christian Andersen or Brothers Grimm fairy tale—a journey takes place that requires substantial risks and discovery. Osorio explores various rites-of-passage in which power, in the form of female fantasy, sensuality, and sexuality, is celebrated. Osorio's work addresses the anxiety, insecurity, and vulnerability that accompany many girlhood transformations and adulthood. Osorio's enigmatic renderings of escape and leisure enable her girls to confront (or deny) their fears through demonstrations of sheer confidence, strength, and relaxation.

Shannon Fitzgerald
Chief Curator

Ruby Osorio was born in Los Angeles, California, in 1974 where she currently lives and works. She received a Bachelors of Arts in Sociology at UCLA and studied art at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Mexico City. She is represented by cherrydelosreyes in Los Angeles where she has had two solo exhibitions: *New Work* (2003) and *Everything She Touches* (2002). She has exhibited in numerous group exhibitions including a show at Patrick Heide Art Projects, London (2005), *Contemporaries Five Years in Grantmaking in the Visual Arts – California Community Foundation at Redcat, Los Angeles* (2004); *Girl on Girl, Miller Durazo Contemporary Artists Projects, LA* (2002); *The Frustrated Landscape, Guggenheim Gallery at Chapman University, Orange County, CA* (2002); *Necessary Fictions, dichiara gallery, New York* (2002); and *Somewhere in the Night, Post Gallery, LA* (2001). She was exhibited in the international art fairs including *Art Frankfurt International Art Fair, Miller Durazo Contemporary Artists Projects, Frankfurt, Germany* and *Scope Miami, cherrydelosreyes, Miami, 2003 and 2004*. She was awarded the *Durfee Foundation Artist Resource for Completion Grant in 2004* and the *California Community Foundation Emerging Artist Fellowship in 2003*. Her work has been reviewed by the *Los Angeles Times*, *LA Weekly*, *Artweek*, and *New York Arts Magazine*.

Exhibition Checklist:

Serenity, (triptych), 2001, gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 23 x 91 inches. Collection of Mimi Won Techentin, Los Angeles.

Reconsidering Eve, 2002, gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 50 x 186 inches. Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.

Falling out of Grace, 2003, gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 7 panels 11 x 30 ½ inches each. Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.

Path Less Traveled, 2004, gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 60 x 22 inches. Collection of Eileen Harris-Norton, Santa Monica.

Sanctuary, (diptych), 2004, gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 22 x 60 inches. Collection of Cris and Marsh McCall, Los Angeles.

Where Mushrooms Bloom, (triptych), 2004, gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 23 x 91 inches. Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.

Bunny Collective, 2004, gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 4 panels, 60 x 44 inches. Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.

Fire Within, (diptych), 2004, gouache, ink, and thread on paper, 22 x 60 inches. Courtesy of the artist and cherrydelosreyes, Los Angeles.