

# MANIFEST™ v57

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ABSTRACT

| City-Haze: Recent Paintings by David Smith



# MANIFEST™

CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY  
AND DRAWING CENTER

volume 57

ABSTRACT

**City-Haze**

Recent Paintings by David Smith

*MANIFEST is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization*

**MANIFEST VOLUME FIFTY-SEVEN**

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**Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center**

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First Printing - October 2011

Designed by Jason Franz

Printed by PrintPelican.com

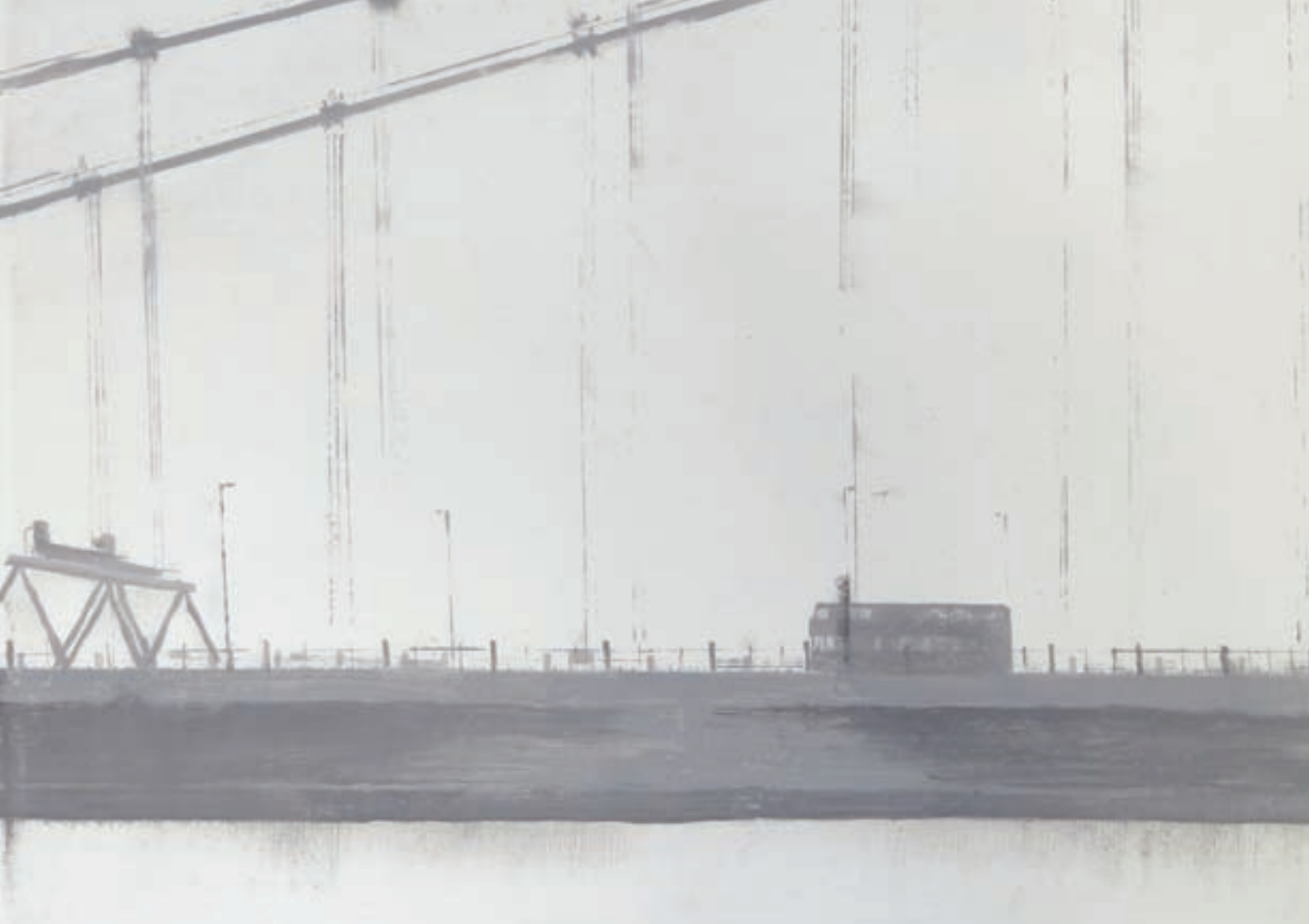
Cover image by Bart Vargas  
Back cover image by David Smith

**THANK YOU!**

Manifest's 2011-2012 season  
is supported by operating support funding from:



**The NLT FOUNDATION**



## September 30 - October 28, 2011

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Curated by Jason Franz

**Barbara Blacharczyk**

Chicago, Illinois

**Brock Cagann**

Indianapolis, Indiana

**Laura Carpenter**

Fort Collins, Colorado

**Joel Edwards**

Livingston Manor, New York

**Kim Flora**

Cincinnati, Ohio

**Lili Francuz**

Fort Collins, Colorado

**Benjamin Gardner**

Des Moines, Iowa

**Daniel Good**

Oakland, California

**Amanda Lee**

Bloomington, Indiana

**Marc Leone**

Cincinnati, Ohio

**Noel Paris**

Santa Ana, California

**Allison Reimus**

Chicago, Illinois

**Jeff Robinson**

Normal, Illinois

**Mary Pat Turner**

Nashville, Tennessee

**Bart Vargas**

Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Josh Willis**

Brooklyn, New York

**Jason Tanner Young**

Lincoln, Nebraska

**Boris Zakic**

Georgetown, Kentucky

**Angie Zielinski**

Pocatello, Idaho



# ABSTRKT

**There are at least three components to a work of art.** Often one of them, Subject, supersedes the others, bordering on distraction and flirtation with nostalgia. Abstraction diminishes the role of Subject in such a way as to allow Form a chance to take center stage. In essence, Form *becomes* the Subject. Ironically, this rebalancing gives way to a clearer, and perhaps more truthful experience of a work of art as a real thing - something that is *itself* rather than a reference to some external 'other.'

Manifest is excited to launch its 8th season with a project intended to feature and explore contemporary abstraction. From non-objective, geometric, and expressive, to figurative abstraction (works in which there is a recognizable subject matter that is distorted, is in some way not 'realistic', or is clearly secondary to the overall formal nature of the work). With "ABSTRKT" Manifest continues its tradition of embracing a wide variety of artwork, offering unique views into the nature of art being made today, around the world, by artists you may not otherwise come to know.

For this exhibit 374 artists submitted 977 works for consideration. Twenty-two works by these 19 artists from 12 states were selected by six jurors for presentation in the gallery and this catalog. Of these, five are from our region, and two are Cincinnatians.



Barbara Blacharczyk, Chicago, Illinois

*Formation of a Shell #4*, ink & graphite on paper, 44" x 30", 2010





Brock Cagann, Indianapolis, Indiana

*Pastel Abstract*, oil on canvas, 36" x 72", 2010



Laura Carpenter, Fort Collins, Colorado

*Threshold*, oil & charcoal on canvas, 84" x 72", 2011



Joel Edwards, Livingston Manor, New York

*Interzone*, acrylic on wood, 27.5" x 24", 2011



Kim Flora, Cincinnati, Ohio

*Charm City #1, out on a wire*, encaustic, oil, collage & toner transfer on panel, 24" x 24", 2009



Lili Francuz, Fort Collins, Colorado

*Man Baby*, transfer print & collage, 16" x 16", 2010







Benjamin Gardner, Des Moines, Iowa

*A Beast for Thee (Scorpius, Orion's Demise)*, acrylic, collage, masking tape, colored pencil, watercolor & graphite on panel, 36" x 24", 2011

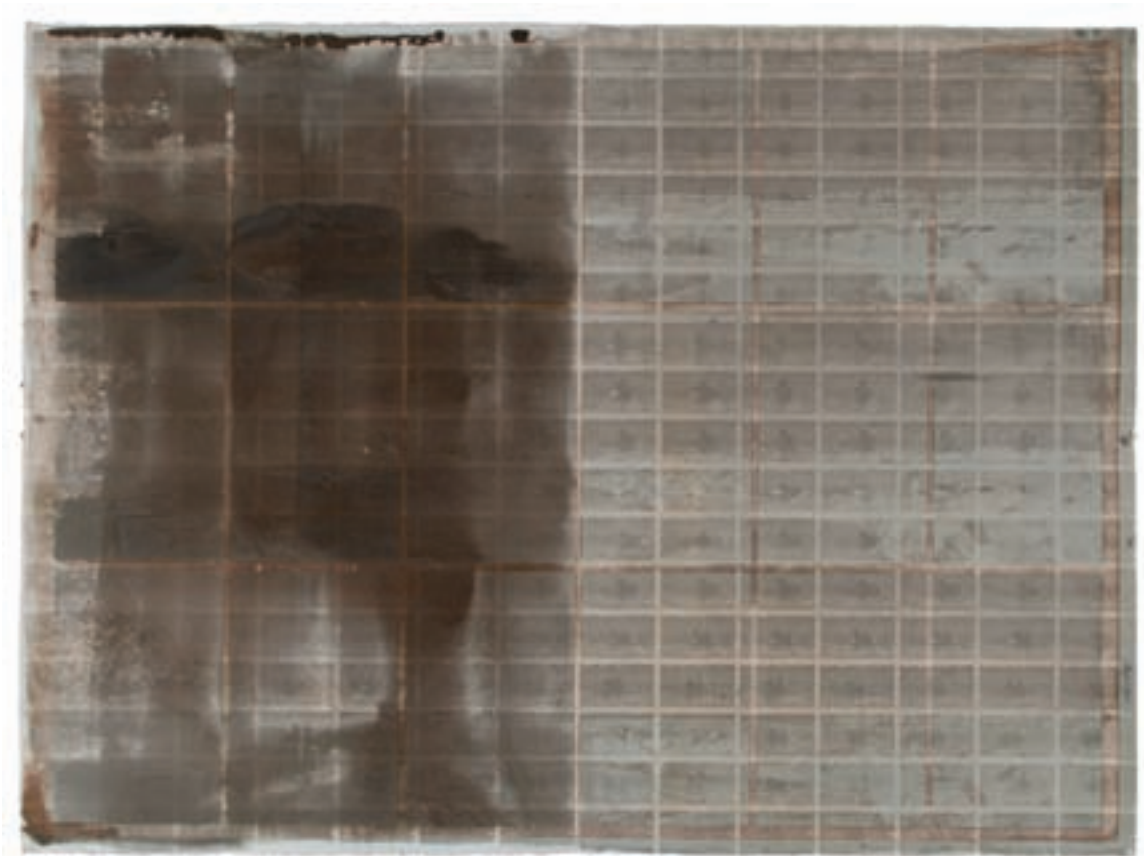




Daniel Good, Oakland, California

***12 Variations on a Frame - Number 4***, maple plywood, 21" x 10.5" x 17.5", 2011





Amanda Lee, Bloomington, Indiana

*Untitled 3 Puerto Rico*, silk screen & salt print, 22" x 30", 2011



Marc Leone, Cincinnati, Ohio

*The Tempest*, graphite, 30" x 40", 2009



Noel Paris, Santa Ana, California

*Primitive Tumbler*, collage & paint, 36" x 48", 2011



Allison Reimus, Chicago, Illinois

*At This Particular Juncture*, acrylic on wood, 24" x 24", 2011



Jeff Robinson, Normal, Illinois

*Over Cast*, mixed media, 11.5" x 11.5", 2011



Jeff Robinson, Normal, Illinois

*Dug Out*, mixed media, 11.5" x 11.5", 2010





Mary Pat Turner, Nashville, Tennessee

*100% Real Chicken*, oil & acrylic on canvas, 48" x 48", 2007



Bart Vargas, Minneapolis, Minnesota

*Ripple*, latex paint & epoxy resin on panel, 23" x 28", 2011



Josh Willis, Brooklyn, New York

*Migdal*, oil on panel, 8.4" x 6.9", 2010







Josh Willis, Brooklyn, New York

*Torre*, oil on panel, 6.4" x 7.75", 2010



Josh Willis, Brooklyn, New York

*Minara*, oil on panel, 7.75" x 6.75", 2010







Jason Tanner Young, Lincoln, Nebraska

*Different Speeds*, bronze, walnut & hardware, 19" x 12" x 10", 2010



Boris Zakic, Georgetown, Kentucky

*Alizarine*, oil on canvas, 61" x 49" oval, 2007



Angie Zielinski, Pocatello, Idaho

*Pavement View*, acrylic & paint pen on panel, 23.5" x 23.5", 2011

September 30 - October 28, 2011

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# City-Haze

## Recent Paintings by David Smith

David Smith is an Irish artist currently based in Hong Kong. He graduated from Galway/Mayo I.T. in 1998, I.T. Sligo in 2001 and the University of Ulster 2003 with a Masters degree in Fine Art. He has participated in various exhibitions at the national and international level, including shows in Ireland, the US, Canada and Hong Kong. Most recently he has exhibited in a number of Manifest's juried shows and has work included in Manifest's 1st International Painting Annual. He has also participated in collaborative works in Hong Kong including the Hong Kong Shenzhen biennale of Urbanism/Architecture. Smith is primarily a painter but also works on music based projects and soundtracks for video artworks, solo works and soundtracks for short films. More information on David's work can be found at [www.davidsmith-studio.com](http://www.davidsmith-studio.com).

For Manifest's 8th season we received 130 solo, group, and concept proposals for consideration for six spots in our schedule. The fierce enthusiasm of so many artists wishing to exhibit in our humble place in Cincinnati was remarkable, and worth pausing to appreciate. We *did*.

Then we set to work as a committee winnowing down so many excellent options to a concise few. The results, we think, are perfect. And we begin our 8th season with one of them, ***City-Haze***. This exhibit of recent paintings by David Smith helps launch our exciting schedule by offering an intimate look at paintings being made today, on the other side of the world.

- Jason Franz, Executive Director

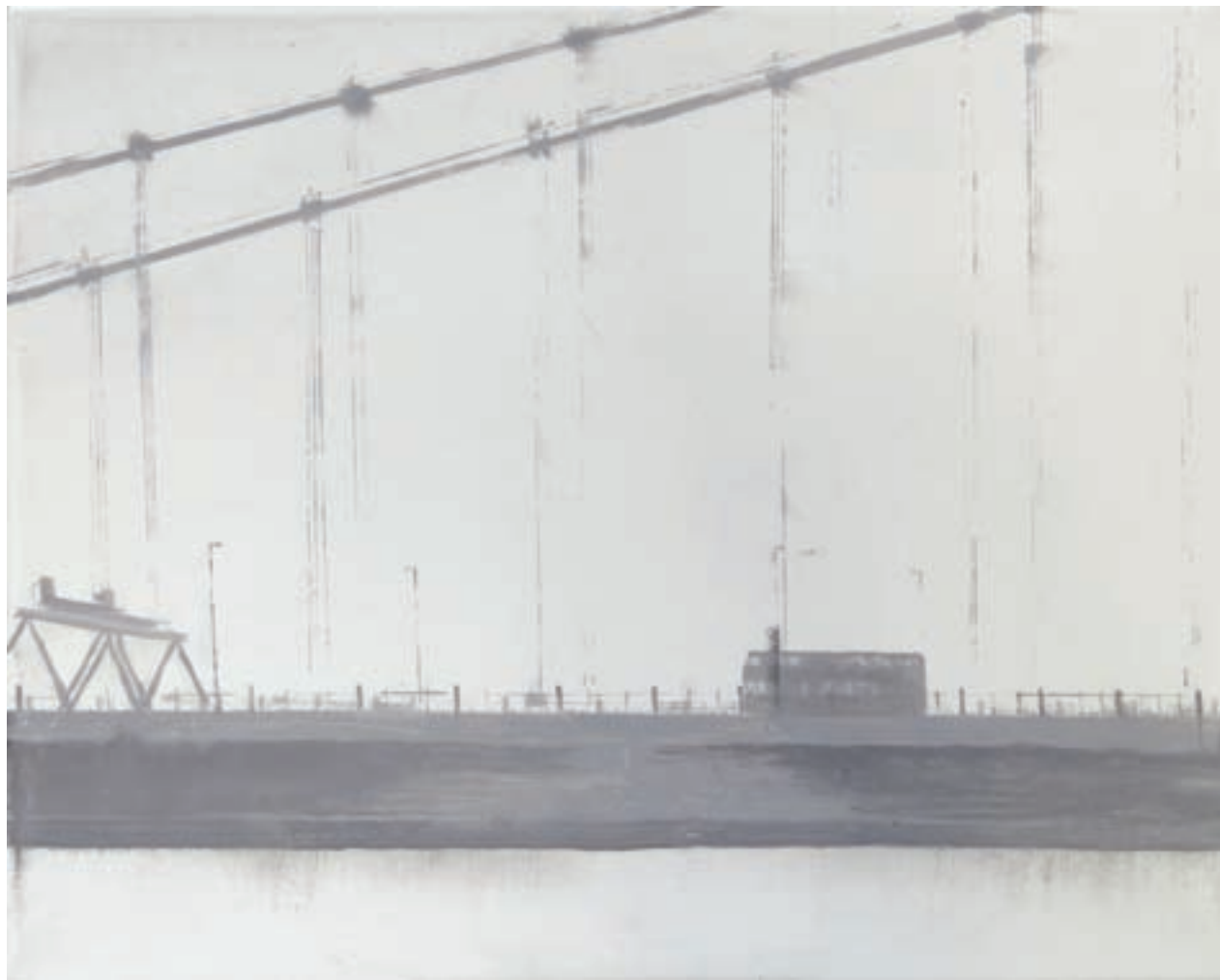
#### Of his work Smith writes:

My work has always engaged with the idea or notion of landscape. I explore the elements of space, light, scale and materials through a restricted format. The subjects are often isolated, cropped or momentary, showing interplay between architectural/man made elements like buildings, tankers, jets and changeable environmental conditions like light, weather, pollution etc. A grand and mysterious space displayed through a small and intimate scale.

The processes involved are central to the work. The approach is often fluid and adaptable, employing washes and the chemical qualities of oil to disrupt, dissolve, shroud or alter a piece. This facilitation sets the stage for a flexible outcome. The small scale of the paintings is a deliberate attempt to engage with

the polarity of depicting vast, elusive spaces on an intimate scale. The simple compositional design, coupled with minimal colour and the unyielding surface of MDF panel, allow the paintings to grow and command more space than their small size suggests.

The overall intent is to present works that are open ended and spare, in scale, content and treatment. The idea of something or somewhere being empty, shrouded, isolated or suggested is intriguing and works as potential for the audience to fill. As an Irish artist based in Hong Kong, the work may also suggest a sense of transience or a feeling of being in a place, yet not in it fully.







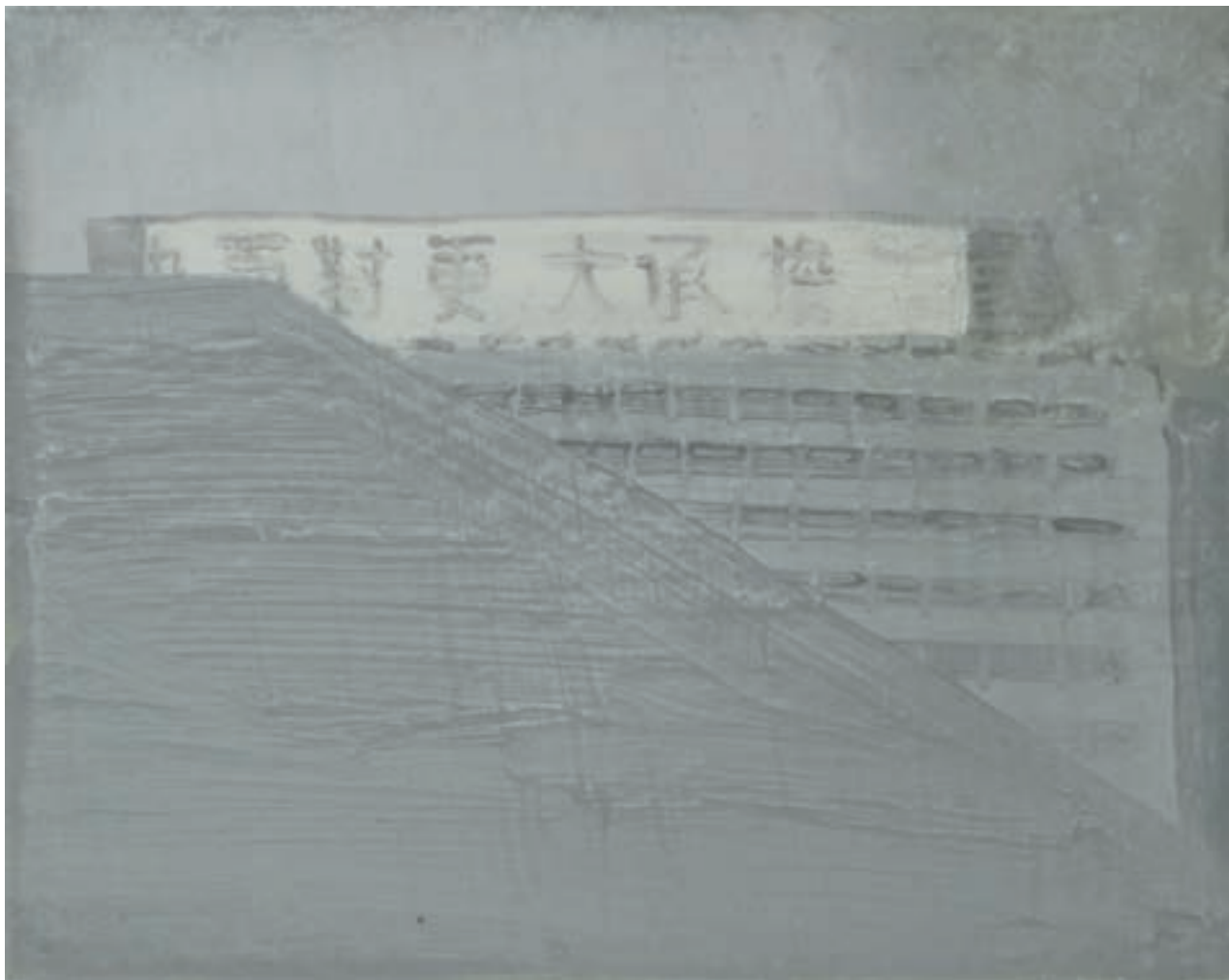
























*index of works*

- |   |   |    |  |
|---|---|----|--|
| 1 | <b><i>Bus-bridge-haze</i></b><br>oil on panel, 12.6" x 15.75", 2011     | 7  | <b><i>Chopper-rain</i></b><br>oil on panel, 7.9" x 9.8", 2010                  |
| 2 | <b><i>Trees-abandoned lot</i></b><br>oil on panel, 10.25" x 12.8", 2010 | 8  | <b><i>Billboard-haze-evening</i></b><br>oil on panel, 7.9" x 9.8", 2010        |
| 3 | <b><i>Chopper-fog-harbour 2</i></b><br>oil on panel, 7.9" x 9.8", 2010  | 9  | <b><i>Bank-haze-afternoon</i></b><br>oil on panel, 7.9" x 9.8", 2010           |
| 4 | <b><i>Chopper-lights-rain</i></b><br>oil on panel, 7.9" x 9.8", 2010    | 10 | <b><i>Hills-trees-dawn</i></b><br>oil on panel, 9.8" x 7.9", 2011              |
| 5 | <b><i>Jet-storm 2</i></b><br>oil on panel, 7.9" x 9.8", 2010            | 11 | <b><i>Lamp-beach-dawn</i></b><br>oil on panel, 9.8" x 7.9", 2011               |
| 6 | <b><i>Chopper-haze-cove</i></b><br>oil on panel, 7.9" x 9.8", 2011      | 12 | <b><i>Yacht-sunlight-polluted water</i></b><br>oil on panel, 7.9" x 9.8", 2011 |

## ***About Manifest***

**Founded in 2004 by professors and students** from area Universities, Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization headquartered in the historic urban neighborhood of East Walnut Hills in Cincinnati, Ohio. The 1000 square foot museum-quality street level gallery offers three distinct exhibition spaces, and is minutes away from downtown Cincinnati, and the numerous academic institutions of higher learning in the region. Its central location in the Woodburn Avenue district and DeSales Corner places it within an energetic, creative, and revitalizing community that includes other galleries, shops, restaurants and artists' studios.

The gallery benefits from its location within easy walking distance of a historic neighborhood populated by residents from all walks of life. The galleries are free and open to the public five hours a day, five days a week, presenting works of all kinds by student and professional artists from around the world. The Manifest Drawing Center Studio is located in nearby Madisonville.

Manifest is supported by grants and public donations and has the goal to support student professionalism, integrate the arts into the urban residential community and raise the bar on artistic standards. The mission also includes the exploration of the relationship between art and design, as well as the ongoing support and display of drawing in all its various forms.

## ***Mission***

**Manifest stands for** the quality presentation, experience, and documentation of the visual arts, engaging students, professionals, and the public from around the world through accessible world-class exhibits, studio programs, and publications.

### **Manifest Gallery**

*...a neighborhood gallery for the world.*

### **Manifest Press**

*...take every exhibit home.*

### **Manifest Drawing Center**

*...because learning to draw is learning to see.*

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Drawing Center Director*

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*Office Manager*

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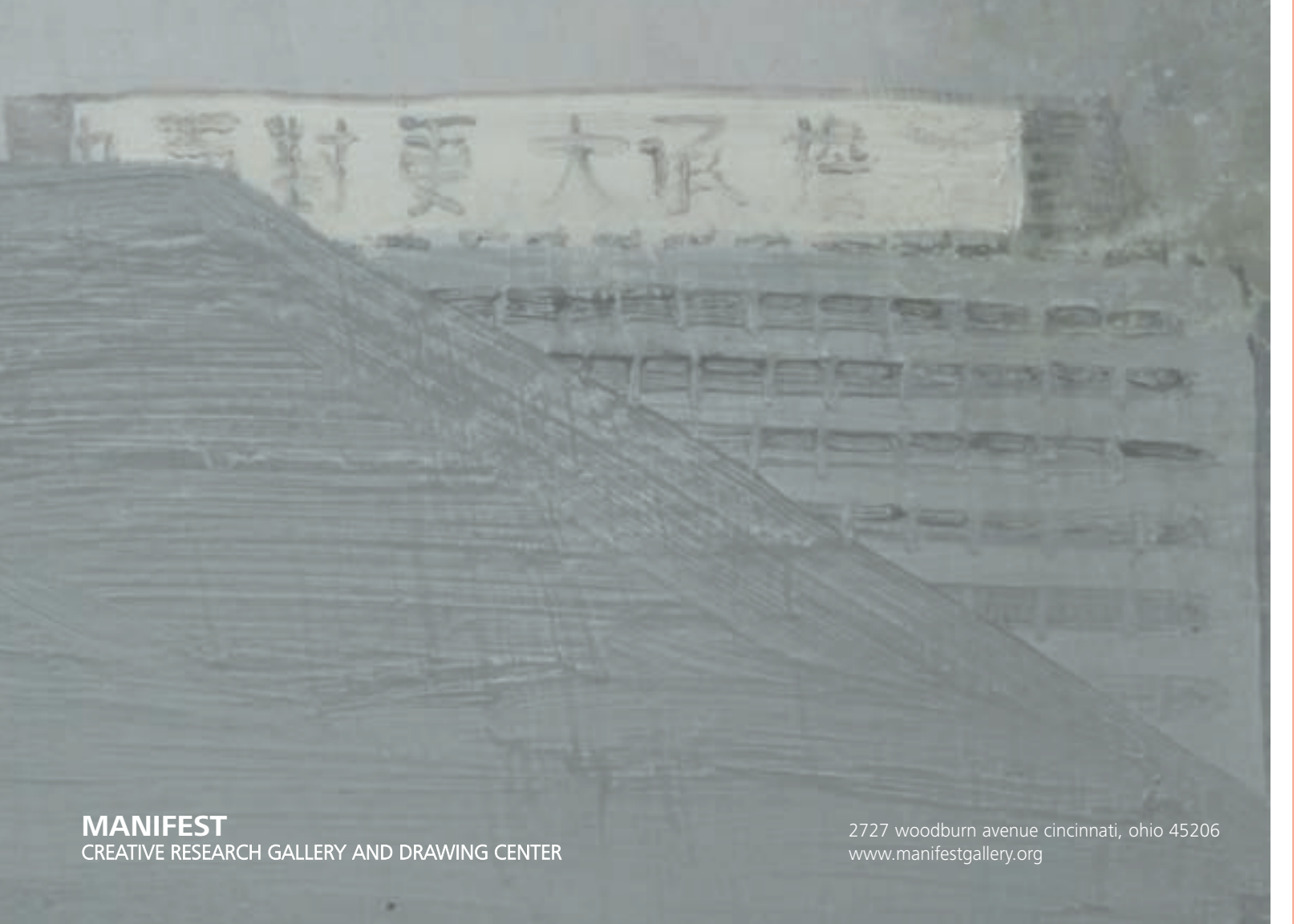
Pamela Ginsburg

Debbie Heuer

Brigid O'Kane







**MANIFEST**  
CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY AND DRAWING CENTER

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[www.manifestgallery.org](http://www.manifestgallery.org)