April 2012 Newsletter

Events

Current

Ran Hwang
Transition
at Leila Heller Gallery
568 West 25th Street

The exhibition runs through April 27

Press release

Image: Ran Hwang, *Healing Blossoms*, 2012, Paper buttons, beads and pins on wood panel, 66 x 325 in (170 x 826 cm)

Ayad Alkadhi
Sharjah Calligraphy Biennial
April 1 – May 1

Information

Images: Ayad Alkadhi, *If Words Could Kill (Ghareeb series)*, 2006, Collage, acrylic, ink and pencil on canvas, 72 x 24 in (183 cm x 61 cm)

Upcoming
Rachel Lee Hovnanian
*Mud Pie*

**OPENING RECEPTION**
Thursday, May 3, 6–8 pm
568 West 25th Street

The exhibition continues through June 2

**Press Release**

Image: Rachel Lee Hovnanian, *Texas Mud Pie, Hands and Feet (Self-portrait)*, 2012, C-print, 14 x 18 in (36 x 46 cm), Unique

Iké Udé
*African Photography, For Whose Eyes? Constructing and Desconstruction Identities*

Speaking at Union College
Thursday, April 26, 5 pm
568 West 25th Street

The exhibition runs through March 31

**Click here for more information**

Image: Iké Udé, *Sartorial Anarchy #4*, 2010, Pigment on satin paper, 40 x 36 in (102 x 91 cm), Edition of 3
Women's Leadership Conference: 120 Years of Women at Brown

"Discussing the Creative Process"
Panel featuring Leila Heller

March 5, 3:45 pm
Brown University
38 George Street
Providence, RI 02912

Click here for more information

Image courtesy of Brown University

Leila Heller Gallery in the News

ARTINFO
"Chelsea Openings: Button Collages, Rusty Monuments, and Sunken Ships"

By Kyle Chayka
April 6, 2012

Korean artist Ran Hwang has a shimmering series of compositions that turn translucent and opalescent clothing buttons into abstracted depictions of birds, flowers, and Asian architecture in "Transition" at Leila Heller Gallery.

Read More

Image: Ran Hwang, East Wind, 2012, Buttons, beads, pins on wood panel, 70 x 141 in (180 x 360 cm)

Art in America
"The Lookout: A Weekly Guide to Shows You Won't Want to Miss"
April 5, 2012

The Korean-born artist's first New York solo offers Asian motifs—vessels, birds, temples, a Buddha figure, flowering tree branches—spectacularly rendered in an unusual medium: thousands of colored buttons on pins inserted in wood panels.
Leila Heller Gallery presents *Transition*, an exhibition featuring nine works and a video installation by artist Ran Hwang. Hwang uses mass-produced items such as buttons, beads, crystals, threads and pins to create truly inspired works of art.
Iranian artist Khosrow Hassanzadeh, looking for symbols of Iranian manhood that could be alternatives to the omnipresent beards, black robes and black turbans, chose the pahlavan for a cycle of works culminating in this massive tile mural.

Image: Khosrow Hassanzadeh, *Haft Khan (detail)*, 2010, Mixed media, 77 x 333 in (195 x 845 cm)

"In Beirut I made them buy an enormous Iranian painting [by Khosrow Hassanzadeh] of Umm Kulthum. She is a diva in the Middle East, like Callas, so he's used her like Andy Warhol used Marilyn," she says.

Image courtesy of *House & Home*

Khosrow Hassanzadeh’s solo debut in New York City is a colossal event in every sense with two monumental murals on tile. The largest is more than 6 feet tall and nearly 28 feet long. [The work is] inspired by Iranian traditions of manhood that existed in a pre-revolutionized Iran.
ARTINFO
"Outtakess"
By David D'Arcy
March 4, 2012

In New York, [Hassanzadeh's] pahlavan pictures are ceramic paintings that combine faded colorized photographic images with calligraphy, and with feminine forms drawn from miniature paintings, often on backgrounds of gold and silver.

Image: Khosrow Hassanzadeh, Untitled I (from Remember), 2011, Mixed media on paper, 83 x 48 in (210 x 122 cm)

Harper's Bazaar Art
"Leila Heller"
Spring 2012

This year, Leila Heller Gallery returns to Dubai with Shiva Ahmadi and Ayad Alkadhi and Kezban Arca Batibeki.

Image: Shiva Ahmadi, Safe Heaven, 2012, Mixed media on aquaboard, 60 x 120 in (152 x 304 cm)

Harper's Bazaar
"Style Affair: Best Dressed–Aisha Mazin Stobey"
March 8, 2012

For Bazaar’s shoot, [Stobey] was granted permission to be photographed at New York’s Leila Heller Gallery where she posed against a backdrop of work by Iraqi artist Ayad Alkadhi.
"Think Middle East Politics are Hot? Try Middle Eastern Art"
By Abigail R. Esman
April 18, 2012

...the graceful articulations of language, form and meaning that scrawl across the canvases of Iran’s Mohammed Ehsai, Iraq’s Ayad Alkadhi, and the Tunisian Nja Mahdaoui, they are all part of that revolution now blazing across the region, as much in politics as in art.

Image: Ayad Alkadhi, *Sleeping Beauties*, 2012, Charcoal, acrylic, pen and pencil on Arabic newspaper on canvas, 72 x 72 in (183 x 183 cm)

"West to East: Rachel Hovnanian Feted in Hong Kong"
March 23, 2012

Well-heeled expatriates packed into a gallery here Wednesday to fête New York artist Rachel Hovnanian on her first solo show in Asia, a tongue-in-cheek take on the pressures of beauty, marriage and domesticity

Image: Rachel Lee Hovnanian, *Dick*, 2010, Archival ink on rag paper, 26 x 32 in (66 x 81 cm)
Leila Heller Gallery, exhibiting with JAMM of London and Kuwait, at Pier 94, featured Middle Eastern artist Farideh Lashai’s video, "Rabbit in Wonderland," a projection of bunnies onto a landscape painting, which sold for $80,000.

Image: Farideh Lashia, Prelude (film still from Rabbit in Wonderland), Sound and projected animation on painting, edition of 7, Oil, acrylic and pencil on canvas, 79 x 71 in (200 x 180 cm)