

## ARTIST STATEMENT

I am fascinated by the conflict between the inner and outer lives of human experience, between the self's placid exterior and its churning, riotous core. Painting, I believe, is a good medium to both capture and illuminate this tension. There are lyrical and ornate aspects to my work, influenced in part by childhood recollections of color and patterns, but underneath and complementing this colorful surface lurks desperation, fragility, violence, and insatiable desire.

I am drawn to opposing forces—subject matter both gentle and abrasive, clean and dirty, fantastic and real—especially as these play out in the social constructions of gender. My paintings evolve from the personal mythos of my memories. Culled from a range of photographic sources, my subjects are composites, sharing traits both male and female, childlike and adult, animal and human.

As such, there is innocence as well as that which threatens it in my paintings. I mix flirtation with aggression, humor with power, and vulnerability with inner-strength. Often I will present an image of conventional domesticity only to subvert it, thereby displacing and disrupting traditional relationship tropes. I hope to evoke the vicissitudes of memory and circumstance with my paintings, and ultimately provoke the viewer to question what lies beneath the surface.

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## RESUME

### SHARON SHAPIRO

Born: Bluefield, WV

Lives and works in Charlottesville, VA

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### EDUCATION

BFA, Atlanta College of Art, Atlanta, GA

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

### GRANTS AND RESIDENCIES

**2011** Residency, The Hambidge Center, Rabun Gap, GA

**2009** Residency, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Amherst, VA

**2000** Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Professional Fellowship

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

**2011** California, {Poem 88} at Tanner Hill Gallery, Atlanta, GA

**2008** Sharon Shapiro: New Watercolors and Paintings, Livity, Charlottesville, VA

**2007** Half Of What You See, Brenau University Art Gallery, Gainesville, GA

**2005** OSP Gallery, Boston, MA

**2004** It's Not the Heat, It's the Humidity, Second Street Gallery, Charlottesville, VA

**2002** Treat, Solomon Projects, Atlanta, GA

**1999** Hybrid, Lyons Wier Gallery, Chicago, IL

Old, New, Borrowed, Blue, Les Yeux du Monde, Charlottesville, VA

**1998** Inhabitant, Solomon Projects, Atlanta, GA

Work, SOHO20 Gallery, New York, NY,

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2012** Mid- Atlantic New Painting 2012 Exhibit, University of Mary Washington Gallery, Fredericksburg, VA (forthcoming)
- 2011** The Optimist: an Art Exhibition for World AIDS Day, East Gallery, London, UK (Curated by David Garrard)  
No Greater Gods, University of Virginia Law Library, Charlottesville, VA  
Works on Paper, {Poem 88}, Atlanta, GA  
The American Dream: A Juxtaposition, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL  
New Waves 2011, Contemporary Art Center of Virginia, Virginia Beach, VA
- 2010** Intimacy Issues, Reed Gallery, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH  
Seeing Double, Attleboro Art Museum, Attleboro, MA  
Playful Things, University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO
- 2009** Mid- Atlantic New Painting 2010 Exhibit, University of Mary Washington Gallery, Fredericksburg, VA
- 2008** Tasty Morsels, ADA Gallery, Richmond, VA
- 2007** Guilty Pleasures, Spur Projects, Portola Valley, CA
- 2006** Image Feminine, Lawrence Asher Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
New Work, J. Cacciola Gallery, New York, NY
- 2004** Inside Out, Hodges Taylor Gallery, Charlotte, NC
- 2003** 30 YEARS: Three Decades of Art at Second Street Gallery, Second Street Gallery, Charlottesville, VA  
Unlikely Portraits, Miller Block Gallery, Boston, MA  
Select 2003, Art Auction, WPA/Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
- 2002** Sugar & Spice, Gescheidle Gallery, Chicago, IL

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2011** Gleim, Sarah. "In Verse!" Jezebel Magazine. December 2011, p.53.  
GILT Contributor. "Inspirations: Color Theory." GILT.com 29 Nov 2011. Web.  
Lawless, Gregory. "A California Suite: Poem by Peter Ramos & Paintings by Sharon Shapiro." ithoughtiwasnewhere.com. 12 May 2011. Web.  
Feaster, Felicia. "Art Review: Dreams of Californication in Sharon Shapiro's Solo Show at {Poem 88}." ArtsCriticATL.com. 28 March 2011. Web.  
Williams, Wyatt. "Censorship as compliment: Sharon Shapiro at Poem 88." Creative Loafing – Culture Surfing, 25 March 2011. Web.  
40Fakes Contributor. "Sharon Shapiro." 40Fakes. 11 March 2011. Web.  
Wolf, Debra. "Beautiful Breasts Cause Controversy in Atlanta." Daily Plate of Crazy. 27 February 2011. Web.
- 2009** Hackett, Regina. "Artists dissatisfied with the slow pace of evolution." Another Bouncing Ball on ArtsJournal. 14 August 2009. Web.  
Summer Sexy Contributor. "'Then the Dream Changed' and 'Ease' Selected by Howard Tullman." Summer Sexy. 17 July 2009. Web.  
Parsons, Laura. "Raw Talent: Shapiro and Read Bare All." The Hook, March 12, 2009.
- 2008** Cator, Eric. "Sharon Shapiro." PaintBlog. 25 May 2008. Web.
- 2007** Fox, Catherine. "Painter's Keen Eye Unmasks Cultural Failings." Atlanta Journal Constitution, September 16, 2007.  
Best Artist, C-Ville Weekly: Best of Issue, August 4, 2007.  
Alexander, Mike. "Interview with Sharon Shapiro." Albemarle Magazine, February/March 2007, 22, 23.  
Davis, Jeremy. "Sharon Shapiro Interview." Vivianite. 2007. Web.
- 2006** Rose, Joshua, and Terri Dodd. "American Art Collector: The Tullman Collector." American Art Collector Magazine, October 2006, 77.  
Cover Image. C-Ville Weekly, July 4, 2006, 2.  
"Leading Ladies Part II." American Art Collector Magazine, February 2006, 98-99.
- 2005** "OA Gallery." The Oxford American, Fall 2005, 32.  
McQuaid, Kate. "Gallery Pick." The Boston Globe, March 24, 25.  
"The Front." The Oxford American, Winter 2005, 12-13.
- 2004** Parsons, Laura. "Gender Studies." The Hook, September 9, 2004, 9.  
"Circles Roundabout (featured piece)." Veranda Magazine. December 2004, 220.
- 2003** Miami Houses. Barcelona, Spain: Loft Publications, 2003.

- 2002** McQuaid, Kate. "The Stories 'Portraits' Tell Us." *The Boston Globe*, March 28, 2002.  
 Workman, Michael. "The Perception of Physical Desire: A Conversation with Peregrine Honig and Sharon Shapiro." *Bridge Magazine*, \ Fall/Winter 2002, 142-150.  
 Cover Image. *New American Paintings*, no. 39(May 2002),126-129.  
 Cullum, Jerry. "Pretty 'Treats' That Could be Troubling." *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, February 15, 2002, Q6.
- 2001** Joiner, Dorothy. Review. *Art Papers*, September/October 2001, 35.  
 Cover Image. *West Branch* (Bucknell University Press), no. 48(Spring 2001).  
 "Modern Romance: Chassie Post in Tribeca (featured piece)." *House Beautiful*, March 2001, 106, 111.
- 2000** *New American Paintings*, no. 27(April 200): 138-141.
- 1999** Cover Image. *Decorating Magazine* (Better Homes and Gardens Special Interest Publications), Winter 1999, 14.

## EXHIBITION CATALOGS

- 2010** *New American Paintings 15th Anniversary*. Edited by Steven T. Zevitas. Boston, MA: The Open Studio Press  
*Playful Things: Examining the Role of Female Identity in Contemporary Art*. Edited by Jeremy Mikolajczak. Warrensburg, MO: Gallery of Art and Design, University of Central Missouri, With essay by Nancy K. Weant.
- 2007** *Half of What You See*. With essay by Debra Wolf. Gainesville, GA: Brenau University, 2007.
- 2006** *Image Feminine: Laurent Dareau, Sharon Shapiro, Daena Tittle*. Edited by James Panozzo. Los Angeles, CA: Lawrence Asher Gallery, 2006.
- 2004** *It's Not the Heat, It's the Humidity*. Edited by Leah Stoddard. Charlottesville, VA: Second Street Gallery, 2004. With essay by Jerry Cullum, "Reimagining the Humidity Index: Notes on New Drawings and Paintings by Sharon Shapiro."
- 2003** *Select 2003 Art Auction*. Edited by Amy Moorefield. Washington, DC: Washington Project for the Arts/Corcoran Gallery of Art, 2003.

## SELECTED COLLECTIONS

The Museum of Contemporary Art, Atlanta, GA  
 The Tullman Collection, Chicago, IL  
 Brenau University Gallery, Gainesville, GA  
 Stan Topol & Associates, Atlanta, GA  
 King & Spalding, Atlanta, GA  
 Kilpatrick Stockton LLP, Atlanta, GA  
 Saks Fifth Avenue, Cherry Hill, NJ  
 Silverchair Communications, Charlottesville, VA  
 Mr. Michael G. Klein, Beverly Hills, CA  
 Ms. Chassie Post, New York, NY  
 Ms. Carol Cole-Levin, Greensboro, NC