

R U L E

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Robin Rule

RULE Gallery is pleased to present a group show titled **Eco-Centric**. The exhibition will run Friday, August 8th through Saturday, September 13th, 2008. Artists Nathan Abels, Hanno Ahrens, Kim Dickey, Mary Ehrin, Jacob Feige, Nancy Jeffrey, Heidi Jung, Ted Kincaid, Gretchen Schaefer and Yoshitomo Saito are among those to be featured in the exhibition.

The art of this eclectic group of artists has ecology at its heart and nature inherent to its eccentricities. The artists of **Eco-Centric** explore issues of environment, nature, and the ways that people shape the world.

Kim Dickey, Yoshitomo Saito, Hanno Ahrens, and Mary Ehrin are similar in their use of unusual materials to portray organic forms. Kim Dickey, known for her sold out show at RULE in spring of 2007 as well as the permanent installation at the Museum of Contemporary Art, has made her career by creating ceramic imitations of perfectly pruned foliage. Yoshitomo Saito, originally from Japan, has been represented in such publications as *Art in America* and *Art International* and has worked in bronze for over twenty years, establishing his own private foundry in Denver. He uses the permanence and weight of bronze in order to capture the ephemeral qualities of wood bark and other organic forms, creating works that evoke his "symbolic unity with nature and memories of his intuitions." Hanno Ahrens sculpture, *River Daughter*, 1988, is constructed from the trunk of a tree and was inspired by the Greek myth of Daphne and Apollo. Mary Ehrin, known for her fantastic feather paintings, uses the luxury of gold paint to create organic forms on canvas.

Nathan Abels and Jacob Feige both incorporate the effect of people on a landscape. Abels, a transplant from Indiana, presents the human habitat "primarily through landscape-based imagery." His paintings to be shown in **Eco-Centric** illustrate a dismal world where spindly trees become relics in a dirty landscape of human artifacts. Feige, a New Yorker, paints pastoral scenes reminiscent of the Hudson River School overlaid with architectural abstract forms that he describes as "tokens of mental purity."

Natural forms inspire Heidi Jung and Ted Kincaid, yet they create alien landscapes through their use of scale and medium. Jung's intimate floral photographs minimize distractions in order to highlight the delicate beauty of her subjects. Ted Kincaid uses digital photography to illustrate cloud and seascapes that look like computer generated images.

RULE Gallery is located at 227 Broadway, Denver, Colorado. The gallery is open from 12PM to 5PM, Tuesday through Saturday, or by appointment (303) 777-9473