

Media Contact:

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For immediate release:

Frances Trombly: Paintings

November 30, 2010 - September 30, 2011

press preview: Monday, November 29th, 12-5pm - artist present

reception: Tuesday, November 30, 7-10pm

ArtBasel/Miami Beach hours:

Saturday - Tuesday, December 4-7, 1-5pm

Mon/Tues Dec 6/7 - 1-3pm - artist present

Also on view:

Facsimile

November 30, 2010 - September 30, 2011

a group exhibition of works from the collection of Francie Bishop Good + David Horvitz and others (including Ghada Amer, Kevin Arrow, Amanda Burnham, Orly Genger, Amy Mahnick, Rita McBride, Leyden Rodriguez-Casanova)

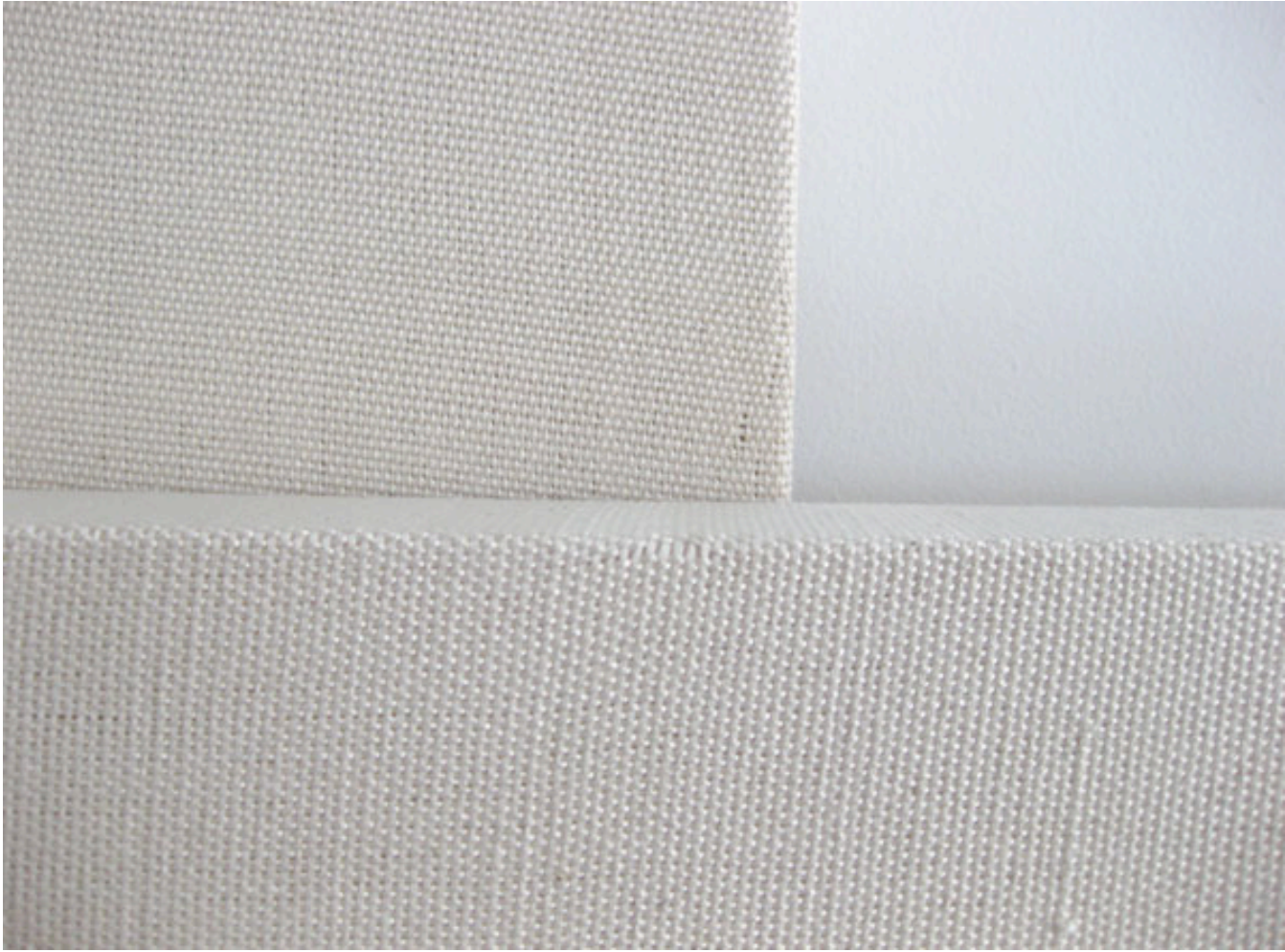


August 10, 2010. Fort Lauderdale, FL -- Opening Tuesday, November 30, 2010, Girls' Club presents its first solo exhibition, *Frances Trombly: Paintings*, new works by the Miami artist. Commissioned expressly for Girls' Club's exhibition space located in downtown Fort Lauderdale, *Paintings* is a timely presentation of previously un-exhibited works by the artist. Expanding upon the artist's practice of hand-crafting everyday items from fiber and displaying them to initially deceive and then reward ordinary perception, Trombly's *Paintings* invite close attention to the minutiae of their own making. *Paintings* inhabit the realm of the micro - the subtly inflected tactile surfaces of her canvases - but they initiate questions in the macro - a provocation to the viewer to assess the "value" of contemporary art objects. How is value in art defined? Does greater labor equal greater value? Are these even paintings that we are looking at? Trombly herself states, "These new sculptures make no effort to create narratives, they merely offer the viewer a glimpse into the hard-working hands of the artist." *Paintings* is a thought-provoking project by a challenging emerging artist. "We are thrilled to present these works in our space," says Girls' Club Founder Francie Bishop Good, "and we are excited to have John S. and James L. Knight Foundation support to offer this exhibition to the public." In keeping with the Girls' Club mission to nurture contemporary female artists and present cutting edge work in South Florida, *Frances Trombly: Paintings* is an important venture. Creative Director Michelle Weinberg says, "We expect to attract greater attention for the work of an emerging artist on the cusp of gaining more prominence nationally and internationally, and we believe the themes in her work are extremely relevant in a shifting art world."

Background

In 2003, Trombly created a diptych titled *Paintings* that sparked a desire in the artist to invest further in an ambitious installation of "paintings". The ideas for the exhibition and accompanying catalog surfaced during conversations between Girls' Club Creative Director Michelle Weinberg and the artist in her studio. Formerly, Trombly focused on everyday objects that occupy our peripheral vision. The utilitarian, the castoff, the nearly invisible: the mops, trash can liners and tarps of her 2008 installation "Thinking of Things" at David Castillo Gallery. She has also painstakingly woven Caution tape, hand embroidered Target and Publix receipts, and crocheted extension cords and garden hoses.

Paintings activates the context and architecture of Girls' Club, and will lead viewers beyond the suggestion of false reality or *trompe l'oeil* familiar to Trombly's viewers. These works delve deeper by testing our faculty for recognition, to separate reality from simulacra. "They are what they are", says Trombly. The viewer is invited to appreciate the handmade rhythm and texture of the woven textile, registering the blips and glitches that inevitably display the artist's "mark".



Leaning Canvas, 2010 (detail)

Handwoven canvas, wood

72 X 54 inches

Courtesy of the Artist and David Castillo Gallery

Facsimile

Upstairs in Girls' Club mezzanine gallery, works by artists Ghada Amer, Kevin Arrow, Amanda Burnham, Orly Genger, Amy Mahnick, Rita McBride, Elaine Reichek, Leyden Rodriguez-Casanova, Jonathan Seliger and others explore the ambivalence of fetish objects and the spaces we contemplate them in. They represent simulacra of reality, and employ tracings, erasures, voids, and *double entendres*. The works in *Facsimile* enjoy a conceptual dialogue with Trombly's installation. They derive from a distinctly American pop cultural sensibility in which a familiar subject is re-presented as a useless object, its function deleted, enjoyed merely as a sign or a brand. Andy Warhol's *Brillo* box is a perfect example. A comment on consumerism and the easy availability of mass-produced uniform items, the production of facsimiles by artists is a critique of the homogeneity of American culture.

Book Launch February 2011

Girls' Club will publish a catalog to accompany the *Paintings* exhibition, designed by Miami's Fulano Inc. Texts are contributed by Museum of Contemporary Art in North Miami Chief Curator Bonnie Clearwater, critic and art historian Jenni Sorkin, currently a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles, and conceptual fiber artist Elaine Reichek. A limited edition of the catalogs will be uniquely bound using Trombly's hand-loomed cloth.

Spring 2011 Events at Girls' Club during Frances Trombly: Paintings

Artist Frances Trombly will lead an informal afternoon of needlework at Girls' Club, open to participation by artists and crafters in the community, date to be announced. Girls' Club also announces its second year of Artists in Action!, four artist talks or demonstrations accompanied by limited edition artist multiples offered for sale to the public. Artists in Action! 2011 artists are: Susan Lee Chun, Karelle Levy, Kerry Phillips and Jen Stark. Dates to be announced.

Cutting Edge Art at Girls' Club

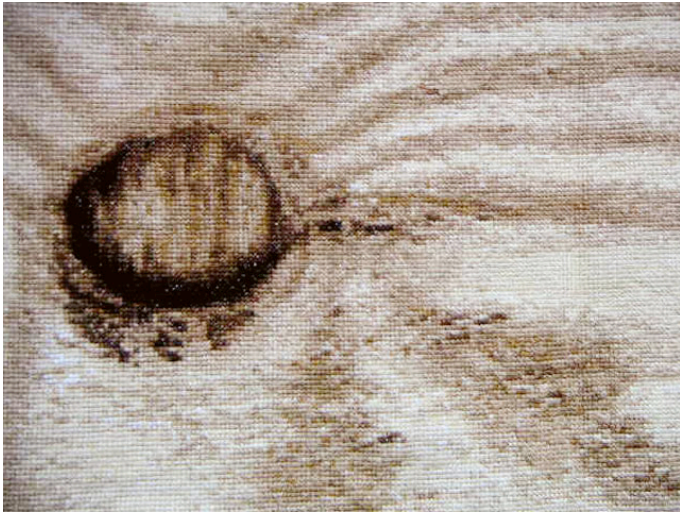
Girls' Club collection includes seminal works by female artists using fiber and traditional craft media, such as: Elaine Reichel, Beverly Semmes, Kiki Smith and Ghada Amer. A growing trend among younger artists is the customized or "hacked" adaptation of traditional craft media and an intensely hand-worked construction of their works. Other artists in the collection exemplifying the handmade, using vintage, artisanal and archival processes are Alison Elizabeth Taylor, Ellen Gallagher, Amparo Sard, Tara Donovan, Ann Hamilton and Yui Kugimiya. Among South Florida artists, the handmade is vital and well-represented in Girls' Club collection with works by Carol Prusa, Kerry Phillips, Jen Stark, Cristina Lei Rodriguez, Courtney Johnson, Dinorah de Jesus Rodriguez, TM Sisters and Kevin Arrow.



Leaning Canvas, 2010
Handwoven canvas, wood
72 X 54 inches
Courtesy of the Artist and David Castillo Gallery

High Resolution images available for publication.

Other works by Frances Trombly in the collection of Francie Bishop Good and David Horvitz:



Plywood, 2004
cross-stitch on fabric, 14 1/2 x 10 1/2 inches



Random Receipts, 2007 (detail)
Hand embroidery on fabric, dimensions variable

About Girls' Club

Founded in 2006 by artist Francie Bishop Good and her husband David Horvitz, *Girls' Club* is a 501(c)3 foundation and alternative space, the only private collection in the world dedicated to exhibiting contemporary art by women. Cutting edge works in painting, drawing, photography and video are presented in curated, thematic exhibitions which include works loaned from other collectors, galleries and artists. Artists represented in the Good/Horvitz collection are a diverse body of women - and some men - representing many ethnicities and nationalities. The programming of *Girls' Club* is designed by founder Francie Bishop Good and Creative Director Michelle Weinberg, with input from collaborators and curators who lend their special expertise. *Girls' Club's* facility is a dynamic, multi-functional building created by award-winning designer Margi Nothard of Glavovic Studio in Fort Lauderdale.

Girls' Club's mission is to educate the public, nurture the careers of female artists, and to serve as a resource for art students and scholars, curators, and practicing artists. A special commitment is made to expose the work of local artists to a broader national and international audience. *Girls' Club's* website features a comprehensive online artist database with biographical information and relevant web links on artists in the collection, facilitating further study on the works and careers of contemporary women artists. Web projects by artists, interviews and texts by writers and a blog extends the presence of *Girls' Club* onto the worldwide web.

Consistent with our mission, *Girls' Club* is committed to changing the lives of individuals in Broward County, and our programming reflects the special needs of women and girls. *Girls' Club* partners with *Women in Distress of Broward County*, the *Susan B. Anthony Recovery Center*, *Women on the Rise* (a program of the *Museum of Contemporary Art* in North Miami), *Young at Art Museum* and the *Pace Center for Girls*, designing specialized workshops in digital imaging and multi-media. *Girls' Club* also offers artist-led technical and professional development workshops for practicing artists in subjects such as alternative printmaking methods and pinhole photography. For more information, visit www.girlsclubcollection.org.

Girls' Club gratefully acknowledges the support of Dennis and Debra Scholl and Seavest Collection. Girls' Club programming is supported by the Broward County Cultural Division, Target Foundation, Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation and private donors. This exhibition is also sponsored by Fulano Inc. and Aveleda Wines.

About the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation advances journalism in the digital age and invests in the vitality of communities where the Knight brothers owned newspapers. Knight Foundation focuses on projects that promote community engagement and lead to transformational change. For more information, visit www.knightfoundation.org.