

**For Immediate Release:**  
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**Tria Gallery to Present “Bodies and Soul”- Painting and Mixed Media Works by  
Josh George, Ellen Nora Goldstein, Katheryn Holt, Michela Martello and Kathy Stecko  
May 15 – June 20, 2008**

**May 15, 2008 – New York, NY:** Tria Gallery will present “Bodies and Soul” through June 20, 2008. On display will be painting and mixed media works by artists Josh George, Katheryn Holt, Ellen Nora Goldstein, Michela Martello, and Kathy Stecko, each offering some of his or her own interpretations of the human form, figure and spirit.

*The study of anatomy increases the sensitivity of the artist’s eyes and makes the skin transparent; it allows the artist to grasp the true form of the surface contours of the body because it shows the parts that lie hidden beneath the a veil of flesh...*

-Dr. Paul Richer, Professor of Anatomy at the École des Beaux  
-Arts and the Academy of Medicine, Paris, 1889

The works in this exhibition are disparate in many ways. The artists use different media and employ different techniques in their depictions of the human form, and their pieces reflect vastly different aesthetics and ideas. What the works in this exhibition do have in common is an ability to go beneath the surface, the “veil of flesh,” to also reveal the human spirit that resonates beneath. In so doing these works by these different artists -- all in their own unique way -- quietly and poetically hit upon some universal truths about our bodies and our souls.



Josh George

A contemporary realist, Josh George employs a mixed application of collage, found objects, and oil paint to render scenes of everyday urban life. In what he calls “narrative snap-shots,” George combines sensitivity and wit to capture the complexities of our modern world. He has shown his work in numerous one-man exhibitions throughout the U.S and Europe.

Ellen Nora Goldstein

Ellen Goldstein is fascinated by mysticism and the occult and incorporates some of these elements into her artwork. Mythology, tarot and astrology all play a part in the birth of her creations. As a trained stop-motion animator, she learned to create the illusion of motion into inanimate objects and as a sculptor, that sense of motion is integrated into her body of work. In animation, one must learn how to apply physical laws, and make them visible and realistic. As a sculptor, the same principles apply, even though the element of time is lacking. Ms Goldstein has participated in nearly 30 group exhibitions.



## Katheryn Holt

Katheryn Holt makes art about family relationships and how they are shaped by desire, love, and loss. As she states, "I view my life as having been created by the many lives that came before it. Just as my parents' and grandparents' features are imprinted on my own, their mannerisms and actions became the blueprint for my psyche and behavior." This idea weaves its way through her mixed-media paintings and prints, in the layers of text, drawings, collage, and silk-screened images brushed with transparent glazes. Holt has had 10 solo exhibitions in New York and California and has participated in nearly 30 group exhibitions throughout the country and abroad.



## Michela Martello

Born in Grosseto, Italy, Michela Martello received her Bachelor of Arts in illustration from the Europe Institute of Design in 1986. In the ensuing years she traveled extensively, dividing her time between Milan, London and New York, and became a prominent illustrator, publishing work in over thirty books. In 1996 she turned her focus to painting, and by 1997 she had her first exhibitions in both Milan and New York. The strong Asian influence in Ms. Martello's painting is self-evident; she explains that Asian philosophies and spirituality have had a profound impact on her work. Ms. Martello's work has been exhibited regularly over the past decade, both in the U.S. and abroad, and is held in both private and public collections worldwide. The work exhibited is rich in symbolism; an evocative synthesis of elements, materials, colors, and ideas.

## Kathy Stecko

Kathy Stecko lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Her work largely consists of figurative constructions that use the body as metaphor. Awarded the Avery Hopwood Award for poetry, she often draws inspiration from writing. Stecko's current body of work is a series of wall-mounted sculptures that explore the idea of cause and effect relationships. Stecko has worked on various projects ranging from promoting awareness of world hunger, to collaborating on a memorial proposal for The World Trade Center and creating work for an AIDS awareness campaign. She sees the opportunity to contribute to the community as an integral part of being an artist. Stecko earned her MFA from the New York Academy of Art and graduated magna cum laude from the University of Michigan.



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Tria Gallery specializes in contemporary painting and mixed media by established and emerging artists. In addition to artwork on exhibit, the gallery maintains an inventory of select works by its featured artists. Tria's three directors, Carol Suchman, Paige Bart and Latifa Metheny, are committed to presenting artists with compelling bodies of work, and ones whose stories, should, in their opinion, be told.

Tria is located in the heart of Chelsea, at 547 West 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 504, and is open to the public. Hours are Wednesday-Saturday, 11:00-6:00. "Bodies and Soul" runs from May 15 through June 20, 2008. For more information please visit our website at [www.triagallerynyc.com](http://www.triagallerynyc.com).