



Earthclouds Docking

What: "Earthclouds" by Nancy Moyer
Where: Chase Tower Lobby, 200 S. 10th Street, McAllen
When: Until July 25
Hours: 9am-6pm. Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm Saturday
Information: Ma. Elena Macias at (956) 665-3480

Clouds and the Psyche

A review of Nancy Moyer's view of beauty through a society of rags or art as science fiction.

BY MARK GLAZER
SPECIAL TO THE MONITOR

Nancy Moyer believes that art should be beautiful and serve humankind through beauty. A sentiment with which I wholeheartedly agree. She does so by using rags. Rags you will say? Yes rags, and she does so most successfully.

Her washrags, of course, are all different from each other and yet the same. They are all delightfully fuzzy, a symbol of their species, and yet all different. They live together in a dark environment, which they illuminate, through their being. They are "ropa" transformed into the beautiful. They are human made goods that are taking over our existence and replacing the beauty of nature.

The inspiration for "Earthclouds" unconsciously came from a visit by the artist to Mexico where she watched early morning clouds rise in the horizon. As she observed washcloths, they took the character of science fiction clouds. The clouds became futuristic washcloths. Here Earthclouds become the essence of their own fantasy existence. They speed through their own space-time dimension as predators of a science fiction reality.

Let me note that the media the work is executed in is photography. We are looking at photography as an art form. The photographs are manipulated to transform daily images of washcloths to a complex photography project with the help of Photoshop. What is a photograph of a washcloth evolves into a complex work of art. The pictures were taken with a Nikon SLR assisted by floodlights. The mastery over this medium and the artistic manipulation of the results creates washcloths that transcend daily reality and become heroes of a futuristic washcloth culture. The putting together of interesting and “photogenic” groupings of the medium to produce larger images was central to the process. Every piece took at least several days to complete with numerous returns to the work

The pieces are not always sharply focused. Some are very sharp. While others, or part of others, are sharp. Other pictures, or portions of them, are fuzzy. This reflects our own universe that is sometime blurry, sometime clear and sometimes a combination of the two. The pieces are realistic and yet they are not. They are in constant flux. They move from our daily reality to a new future. This is a future that is fictional. It is a in the artist’s psyche. It is a creation that belongs to the future and yet is a feature of the present. The ephemeral dimension of old rags accurately producing a new reality.

The work is an examination of folds in fabric as seen through photographs. Folds fascinate Moyer. She has in this exhibit brought together a life-long fascination into a vision of our common present and future through folded rags. We wander what kinds of folds are awaiting us as we move from the present to the future.

These imaginary transformations produce metaphors that are no longer just images but art. The rags are no longer washcloths they live in a science fiction universe where they are the essence of a mutation from the quotidian to the universal in art. Their reality, and your reality, has changed from being the commonplace and ephemeral to being a futuristic reality. Here we live in a universe of washcloths that have scrubbed reality out of our daily lives and created a fresh and clean present.

If you want to see an exhibit of deeply felt and captivatingly executed art, please go to see Nancy Moyer’s exhibit. Your view of art and beauty will move toward the future through an aesthetic of beauty.