

TOGONON GALLERY



San Francisco, July 31, 2009

Johanna Poethig
Solo Exhibition
New Painting

"Colonization of the Dreamworld"

Exhibition: September 10-September 26, 2009

Reception: Thursday, September 10, 2009, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Togonon Gallery is pleased to present Johanna Poethig in her first solo exhibition at the gallery. In this latest series of paintings by Johanna Poethig, the interplay of the conscious and subconscious is painted into the folds of sheets and the shapes of pillows. Images, symbols and words surface in lush layers of form, color and texture. In art history, the rendering of drapery has represented different meaning in every era. In this contemporary context, it refers to the obsessions and wanderings of our dreamworlds as they respond to the messages of our "lifeworld". The folds of fabric are analogous to the bedsheets, landscapes of our imagination and topographies of our brain. Symbols are the language of dreams in which the rules of reality do not apply. Dreams, like art, are open to interpretation. Our rational minds are colonized by the mysteries of our subconscious as it processes the information we receive while awake.

This work was inspired by the philosopher Jergen Habermas and his concept of the "Colonization of the Lifeworld" where culture, meaning and value are colonized by the instrumental rationality of the modern marketplace system. In this sense what is irrational is subject to what might be falsely rational.

She exhibited in the 2008 Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Bay Area Now 5 and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The Bronx Museum, New Langton Arts, The Luggage Store Gallery, Headlands Center for the Arts, The Lab and Mag:net Gallery Katipunan in Manila.

Togonon Gallery
77 Geary, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA
Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 11-5:30pm

Open until 8pm on 1st Thursday of the month.

Web: togonongallery.com

Phone: 415.398.5572

For more information please contact Rafael Musni, Associate Gallery Director, at 415.398.5572, by cell at 415.368.7483 or by email at Rafael@togonongallery.com