

Ohio University Art Galleries, Seigfred Hall, Athens, OH 45701

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For immediate release

Exhibition Date: September 6 – October 18, 2007

Gallery: Ohio University Art Gallery, 5th floor Seigfred Hall

Exhibition Title: *Construct Realities*

Artists represented in *Construct Realities* - *M. M. Dupay, Constanine Gedal, Jason Godeke, Ron Kovach*

Exhibition Curator: Petra Kralickova

Artist Lectures by Ron Kovach: October 18, 6 PM held in Mitchell Auditorium, Seigfred Hall 519

Reception: Thursday October 18, 7-9 PM

Gallery Hours: Monday – Saturday 10 am – 4 pm

This invitational exhibition presents four painters who construct their own realities; whether it is depicted via fantasy, the truth or the mix of the two.

The four artists represented in this exhibition offer questions, and at times, attempt to answer who we are as humans. Each artist constructs a different reality to investigate personal or social experiences. While some of the images tell a story, most of them explore and take part in the fears and stereotypes of the human drama.

Dupay's use of collage and *Godeke's* paintings focus on the family experience and history. The images of both artists are meticulously put together to reveal their concerns and fears within the micro society. Though the stories originate in their personal experiences, the images are fragmented and juxtaposed to explore realities beyond the personal.

On the other hand, *Gedal's* and *Kovach's* work portrays social concerns – such as politics, religion and authority. They construct their realities by juxtaposing and layering images, creating a landscape of dream and fantasy, filling it with disturbance, tension and anguish.

Where *Gedal* employs the Surrealist approach, where humans and animals exist together in abstracted and seemingly peaceful world, *Kovach* uses cartoon images, magazine cutouts, writing and symbols to present a world that is frantic and turbulent. However, both artists open up a pensive dialogue, one that is awkwardly silent and tense, and the other is entirely chaotic and messy.

Dupay, Gedal, Godeke and Kovach construct their own realities in four different styles and artistic techniques but together they depict the human drama, question the truth and desires and attempt to look beyond the social veneer.