

THEODORE:Art

56 Bogart Street, Brooklyn, NY 11206

theodoreart.com 212 9664324 theodoreart@gmail.com

More Than This

**Nancy Handler
Erik Hanson
Sarah Reynolds
Michelle Vaughan
Andrew Witkin**

with works by Sophie Calle and David Shrigley

November 8 – December 14, 2014

RECEPTION Saturday November 8, 6-9 PM
GALLERY HOURS FRIDAY-SUNDAY 1-6 PM

Theodore:Art is pleased to present More Than This, a group exhibition contemplating the limits of life and the elasticity of mortality, and vice versa.

In the Arsenale of the 2005 Venice Biennale, the collective The Center of Attention created an installation called Swansong (Schwanengesang). First the participant selects a tune for the ceremony; they then lay on a plinth, performing death, while listening to the music.

My choice was the song "More Than This", by Roxy Music; as a lifelong agnostic I thought it offered a rather jaded and nihilistic statement. My father had just been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and yet I was in Venice theoretically enjoying myself. But as I lay on the plinth contemplating the lyrics, it occurred to me that the song was anything but jaded.

I could feel at the time
There was no way of knowing
Fallen leaves in the night
Who can say where they're blowing
As free as the wind
And hopefully learning
Why the sea on the tide
Has no way of turning

It was an epiphany for me – it's carpe diem or nothing.

* * * * *

This exhibition was to take place during the summer of 2014. Unfortunately my father, who survived his cancer of 2005, passed away. This show is dedicated to his memory.

Nancy Handler is the Magnet Photography teach at South Miami Middle School. She has a BFA from University of Michigan and a MFA from Pratt Institute, as well as a post-graduate Educational Specialist degree in photography from Florida International Univeristy. After working in the fashion world for some time, Handler returned to her art practice, as well as teaching for Dade County Public Schools and as an adjunct for Miami-Dade College and the International Fine Arts College. She has shown her work in numerous group shows in Miami and New York. Handler lives and works in Miami.

Erik Hanson made the decision when he was 8 years old to move to New York and pursue a career as an artist. With 7 NYC solo shows under his belt and inclusion in group shows from MoMA/PS1 in NYC to Museum Boijman's Van Beuningen in Rotterdam he has begun to live out his dream. Hanson was recently mentioned in People magazine as an inspiration to George W. Bush. As a contributor to "Living and Sustaining a Creative Life" Hanson spoke on a panel at Strand Bookstore in March on his multifaceted career as an artist. In the past year Hanson performed in Rainer Ganahl's "Comme des Marxist" at White Columns, NYC and Ron Athey's "Gifts of the Spirit" at Participant Inc, NYC.

Sarah H. Reynolds is a fine artist based in New York City. Her signature aesthetic focuses on utilizing charcoal and paper to create sculptural works and abstract drawings that surpass what is traditionally expected of both mediums. In doing so, she challenges viewers to think about using simple, common materials in innovative ways. Her work has recently been featured at the National YoungArts Foundation Miami, with @60" during Art Basel Miami, and at the MLB FanCave Art Gallery. She has also collaborated with renowned brands such as, Coach, SOL REPUBLIC, Calypso St. Barth, Salvatore Ferragamo, and Sharpie. Sarah graduated from NYU's Gallatin School of Individualized Study with a degree in studio art and advertising.

Michelle Vaughan received her BFA at UCLA. Her art practice focuses on political or historical subjects: she examines topics and then deconstructs and reinterprets the material through her work. In addition to her studio work, she has produced temporary installations in public settings surrounding topics such as science, history and politics. Solo shows have been exhibited at Dumbo Art Center and the South Street Seaport, where she was awarded fiscal sponsorship from the New York Foundation of the Arts for Sea Warriors: A Public Art Project, in 2009. Vaughan was born in Anaheim, California and lives in New York City.

Andrew Witkin's work is balanced between references within elements, structures of presentation and the interactions that occur within the elements and between viewer and work. He has had recent exhibitions at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester, New Hampshire and the DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum in Lincoln, Massachusetts. The MFA Houston, DeCordova and MFA Boston have all recently acquired works. He is currently working on a new book project and an as yet-unspecified performance. Most of all, he is happy to have recently officiated dear friends' weddings!

For more information and images, please contact Stephanie Theodore at 212 966 4324 or theodoreart@gmail.com.