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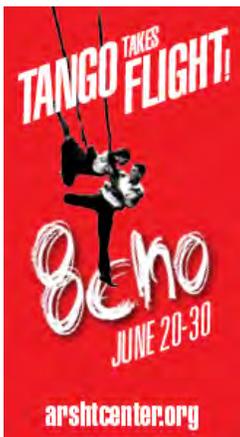
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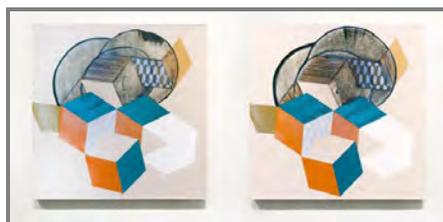


"Unpredictable Patterns of Behavior"

Opening June 5th Art Center South Florida

BY: IRENE SPERBER ON JUNE 02, 2013.

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Factum by Ramon Bofil

Contrary to the title, this piece will not be a diatribe on South Beach social department, though perhaps some of the information included may apply. Long standing and venerated Art Center South Florida eases into the steamy summer months with a subject that has been of interest to me for some time. Patterns repeat from the most minute building block of our existence to the big bad Universe out there and beyond: sacred geometry, Fractals, Fibonacci code, the golden ratio all make a stab at making order out of chaos (our personal lives notwithstanding). The organizers of the Arts Center's new show chose a quote from Fritjof Capra's *The Web of Life* as explanation: "Understanding of life begins with the understanding of patterns." I resonated with this quote as I clearly remember the epiphanic moment when I discovered this basic truth. This exhibition has all the earmarks of being an excellent think piece, giving our brains a project to ponder as we lazily wile away the summer months.

Born in Italy, the mastermind of this exhibition recently dropped down from life on our northern mothership, New York.....driving south solo on a motorcycle, I hear. Curator Ombretta Agró Andruff and I spoke about the upcoming exhibition.

OAA: "In 2012 I curated a NY exhibition connected to geometry and mathematics called (Un)Folding Patterns. When I moved here I was offered an opportunity by Susan Caraballo, Artistic Director at the Art Center, to curate a show. I wanted to do Miami artists."

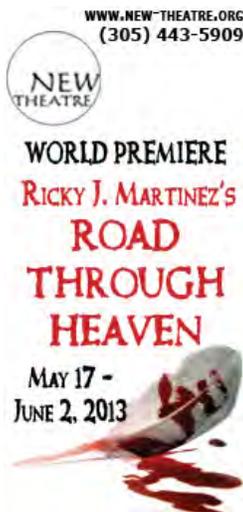
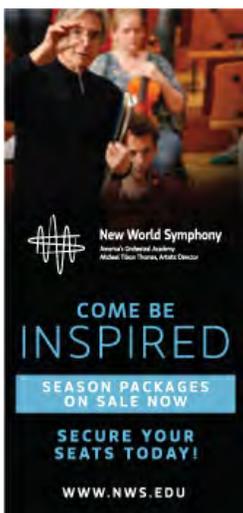
Ombretta and the director were in agreement to take the concept of patterning from the NY show and translate with South Florida artists' sensibility. While the New York show related the visual arts to mathematics, *Unpredictable Patterns of Behavior* swims into the mind of the artist to ascertain what patterns cross the artistic disciplines of the visual arts, sound and architecture.

Agro Andruff spent many months familiarizing herself with South Florida artists and identifying work that best translates to *Unpredictable Patterns of Behavior*; artists from the Deering Estate Residency Program, Fountainhead Studios and Residency and of course the Art Center South Florida provided successful ground for Ombretta's search.



Curator Ombretta Agró Andruff (photo by Susan Weinhaler)





IS: You mentioned there were different types of geometric patterns in the work chosen? Can you elaborate?

OAA: "Since our early childhoods, we all instinctively absorb and enjoy patterns through all of our senses, even via our thinking," says Ms. Agró, about the exhibition. "We live our lives constantly surrounded by a kaleidoscope of patterns. These artists, composers and architects relate to patterns in distinctive ways: some extrapolate natural patterns, integrating them into their process; others play with geometrical patterns or create their own patterns inspired by man-made landscapes and invented systems. The goal is to transcend the aesthetic enjoyment of their artworks, and experience the patterns that inspired them."



Luminous by Alex Trimino

I wondered how the participating artists internalized the ideas offered in this show. I threw out a thought question to a few and came up with three very different responses, all equally contemplative.

IS: How has the subject of patterning impacted your life and artistic style? Is it a more subconscious influence or was there a moment when you became actively aware of patterns in life from the changing of the seasons to repetitive shapes in formal architecture throughout the ages? Can you give a brief synopsis of why your particular piece(s) is a good example of the topic.

1) Sarah Walker (Fountainhead Residency Alumna, New York-based): "Most people are geared towards objects and people. I, however, intuitively grasp patterns and space. I sense pattern before I see anything else.

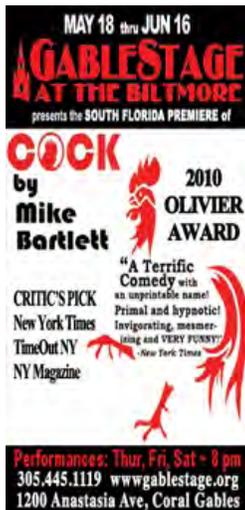
As a child I noticed how patterns infused everything I looked at. A leaf or insect wing might have a pattern of color and an interweaving pattern of veins at the same time. Looking closer I could see a pattern of cells. When I was older I recognized that those patterns realign into different ones when scaled up or all the way down to subatomic material.

I also 'see' patterns of behavior and occurrence in people, things and phenomena. Patterns are the organizational principle of my work and the way I perceive the world."

2) Felice Grodin (Fountainhead Residency Alumna, Miami-based): "When I was in architecture school there was a book I was introduced to called 'Invisible Cities' by Italo Calvino. It was the first time that I had read about the idea of the city as a network of both visible, as well as invisible patterns. It also made me realize that there could be a difference between static forms as representing meaning versus dynamic patterns (or the space between forms) as producing meaning.

Specifically, each of my two pieces in the show are attempts at mapping trajectories in the 'spaces between'. One, the movement of market speculation (rising/falling index, 2012) and the other, the circuitous, and organic pattern of a network (networked, 2012)."





3) Matt Sheridan (Has a residency in Fountainhead) "My life experiences with synchronicity -- rhythmically overlapping intersections between seemingly unrelated occurrences which activate my "sixth sense" of precognitive hyper-instincts -- have shown me "god is in the math" in terms of frequency and intensity of sensory revelation. Mathematical patterns driving my practice are mechanical, musical and material."



Rythmicity by Temi Okpaku

"My painting-in-motion animations conflate structural strategies to create sequential movements which repeat, overlap and transform over time in architectural spaces."

"I became conscious of revelatory patterns of distress, relief and connection in my late teens. While controlled production drives my painting and animation practices, there is always a point at which the work begins making its own decisions -- where I become conscious of the subconscious elements which are actually driving the work regardless of my intention -- which are discoveries".

"My painting-in-motion video installation *Rhythm Section* combines two separate works into one parallel space divisible by the three channels of video which are presented. *Rhythm Section* is about tension between universe -- the cornering, swirling wall abstract projection -- and subject -- the upright video monitor reacting to the plurality of movements facing it."

"*Rhythm Section* has no sound so you can "hear" it through its action and percussion in concert with your own localized electrical ambience. Since my synchronistic experiences are often equally challenging and enlightening, *Rhythm Section* is built from abstract patterns of elegant brutality made from time, space, light, object and ethereality."

Curator Ombretta Agro Andruff has positive thoughts about what special ingredient the Art Center will bring to her project: "What I love about the Art Center is that it is not located in an arts neighborhood. It will be viewed by a non art-patron audience and open to people who stumble upon it. Artwork can be appreciated on a different level; for a purely esthetic factor. I wanted a show that can be an intuitive show. I hope the work will trigger something that connects them to nature and the world around them."



MONAD Studio RHYTHMICITY

Twelve artists and/or groups participating: MONAD Studios (their designs "highlight the range and complexity of sensations involved in constructing rhythmic ensembles"), Ramon Bofill (ArtCenter Resident Artist), Felice Grodin (architecturally informed work), Matt Sheridan, Sarah Walker, Temi Okpaku, Alex Trimino, George Goodridge (ArtCenter Resident Artist), Peter Hammar (ArtCenter Alumnus), PUNTO(sound works in the listening gallery), Ann Morgan Spalter and Ryan Roa.

Art Center South Florida "Unpredictable Patterns of Behavior"

www.artcentersf.org

Opens June 5th at both galleries 6:00-10:00pm

- Richard Shack Gallery, 800 Lincoln Road
- Project 924, located upstairs at 924 Lincoln Road

June 1-July 28: The opening reception is a public event on Wednesday evening, June 5th 6:00-10:00 p.m. This is the first time ArtCenter has utilized both Lincoln Road spaces simultaneously

Research info:

Fractals

<http://whatis.techtarget.com/definition/fractal>

Fibonacci Sequence

<http://whatis.techtarget.com/definition/Fibonacci-sequence>

Golden ration

<http://science.howstuffworks.com/life/evolution/fibonacci-nature1.htm>

Sacred geometry

<http://sacredgeometryinternational.com/the-meaning-of-sacred-geometry>

MONAD

<http://www.monadstudio.net/12874/about>

Fountainhead Studios and Residency

http://fountainheadresidency.com/residency_home_page.html

Deering Residency

<http://www.deeringestate.org/pages/Artist-In-Residence.aspx>

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