

Stranger Factory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stranger Factory art space is proud to present “Sweet & Sorrow” a solo exhibition of new works by international fine artist and toy designer, Kathie Olivas. The exhibition opens July 1 with a reception from 6-9pm.

Kathie Olivas is a multi-media artist who resides in Albuquerque, NM. She received her bachelor's degree in visual arts from the University of South Florida in 1999 and is currently working on her 2nd book of her work, a film treatment based on her world, and a line of limited edition resin and vinyl toys.

Sugary treats, dichotomous dreamlands, and the cute and corrupted all find their way into the brief calm before the rebellion featured in Kathie Olivas's art. This series of toys, paintings and custom figures focus on imperfect characters that parallel a vision of post-apocalyptic conformity, uniquely documenting their own stories in a mysterious brave new world.

The cast is inspired by early American portraiture that often depicted children as small adults in an idealized new land. They evoke a sense of temporality; childhood serves as a starting ground, a place where things begin. Children also personify “cuteness” as more of a representation of projected innocence. The comfort in this ideology comes into question when these sweet creatures have other ideas such as how to protect themselves or how would they be able to adapt if they chose to be independent. Once isolated in a war torn environment, they are forced to develop their own defense mechanisms. Their storylines focus on the ambiguity and fleeting moments surrounding the uprising. The unapologetic anti-heroes guide us through the mysterious lands questionably untouched by human destruction. A minimalist haze fogs what could be the illusion of this dreamland or what could possibly be the reality of destruction and decay after complete and utter annihilation. Their mutated limbs, empowered sidekicks, or improvised armor present a satirical look at how fear affects our sense of reality.

The Stranger Factory brings a fresh perspective to the American art + design scene, connecting world class artists from the Pop Surrealist and Lowbrow movements to New Mexico. Dedicated to providing aspiring art collectors the opportunity to begin their collections with original artworks and limited edition releases at affordable prices, Stranger Factory is not only a collaborative effort among the artists...but between the space and its patrons as well.

Stranger Factory / 109 Carlisle Blvd NE / Albuquerque, NM 87106
505-508-3049 / stranger@strangerfactory.com

Hours of operation:
Wednesday-Thursday 11am-6pm
Friday 11-7pm
Saturday 10-7pm
Sunday 11-5pm
& by Appointment

Sweet & Sorrow, new works by Kathie Olivas
July 1-31, 2011
Opening Reception with the artist: July 1, 6-9pm





