



SAGE PROJECTS 333 South Street, Philadelphia, PA.

The gallery is free and open to the public

Wednesdays and Thursdays 12-6pm, Friday, Saturday and Sundays 2-8pm

Validated parking is available (see the website for details)

For images and more information:

sagewhat@warppmail.net sageset.blogspot.com

For Immediate Release

DON KAISER

Objects and Storms

VINCENT ROMANIELLO

New Work: Blue Collar

September 6 - September 27, 2009

Opening Reception: Sunday, September 13, 6-8pm

SAGE PROJECTS is pleased to present an exhibition of works by Philadelphia area artists Don Kaiser and Vincent Romaniello. The two artists have created installations specifically designed for the gallery spaces. Sage Projects encourages artists to experiment and present unique work that might not otherwise have an appropriate venue for exhibition.

Don Kaiser's exhibition, titled **Objects and Storms**, on the ground floor project space at 333 South Street in Philadelphia, is an exhibition of drawings primarily in black and white. Many of the multi-scale images are drawn in ink directly on the walls of the space. Other drawings are executed on paper as well as on suspended acrylic sheets. In addition to the drawings, Kaiser creates a visual poetic presence through the use of words and thoughts that sometimes confront the viewer, and sometimes just meander around the gallery and imagery. The words and drawings may seem to share meaning but often simply coexist, like objects and storms. Kaiser said, "Sage Projects is giving me the opportunity to realize drawings and ideas that I have been working on for some time, and it is greatly appreciated."

The materials found at hardware super stores that went into the work of **Vincent Romaniello** inspired the title for his show **Blue Collar**. "Using rough lumber and insulation in my work started me thinking about things like the offshoring of jobs, Rocky Balboa, and my own upbringing..." says Vincent in a statement on his new work. The installation addresses the entire upper level space and includes numerous 2D and 3D pieces. In the large sky light above the spiral staircase Romaniello has hung 3 black and white checkered sculptures made of weather stripping, each 8 foot wide, and each with 10 appendages. Other works include a table displaying prototypes for gigantic sculptures, and double-sided collages installed on billboard-like wooden structures. The collages are made of R-3.0 insulation used in the home building industry.

While the two artists employ distinctively different strategies, typography is the common element found in both artists work. In Kaiser's there is a certain beauty that flows throughout, in Romaniello's the chopped up, bold characters of modern technology and construction make themselves known.

Don Kaiser graduated from the Tyler School of Art, Temple University, with a degree in painting and printmaking. In 1970 he was one of the first artists hired by the Philadelphia Print Club (now the Print Center) to create prints for their Prints in Progress program at the 1812 Green St. Workshop. From 1972 to 1983 he worked as a public artist in The Philadelphia Museum of Art's Department of Urban Outreach (later renamed the Department of Community Programs), where he produced numerous and varied works of art in collaboration with other artists and the public. In 1972, Kaiser became the first Artist-in-Residence at the Samuel S. Fleisher Art Memorial, where he still teaches painting. He has exhibited continuously since 1972, with his work appearing in many solo and group exhibitions. Kaiser has had one person shows at the Stephen Rosenberg Gallery in New York City, the Wolfe Street Gallery in Washington DC, Colorado College in Colorado Springs, CO, as well as locally at the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science (now Philadelphia University), and twice at the Samuel S. Fleisher Art Memorial. In 1988 he was chosen by Alan Edmonds of the Brandywine Graphics Workshop for an Artist-in-Residency at the Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, in Swansea, Wales, UK, where he also lectured on public art in Philadelphia. In 1997, while working on a one person show at Fleisher combining painting, drawing, and sculptural elements, Kaiser began to explore digital media as an additional form of expression. Drawing however continues to be a primary means of expression for him. In the past few years, while producing a large body of computerized images, he has continued to draw.

Vincent Romaniello was born in Philadelphia, PA. He studied art and design at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, CA. After living and working there for 14 years Vincent moved to New York City where he concentrated his studies on painting at the School of Visual Arts and the New York Academy of Art. He has exhibited his paintings, sculptures and videos nationally and internationally including the Biennale Internazionale dell'Arte Contemporanea, Florence, Italy; Roger Smith Gallery, New York, NY; Butters Gallery Ltd., Portland OR; Bentley Projects, Phoenix, AZ; Marymount University, New York, NY; the University of Wisconsin-Stout, WI; The Philadelphia Art Alliance in Philadelphia, PA and Gallery Siano in Philadelphia, PA. Vincent has been the recipient of honors from The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, The State Museum of Harrisburg, The Wood Turning Center, Philadelphia, PA and others. His work is in private collections as well as public collections including Coventry Corporation, Fort Washington, PA; Park Hyatt at The Bellevue; Morgan Lewis; and Kleinbard Bell & Brecker LLP, in Philadelphia, PA. He is one of the founding members of Sage Projects.