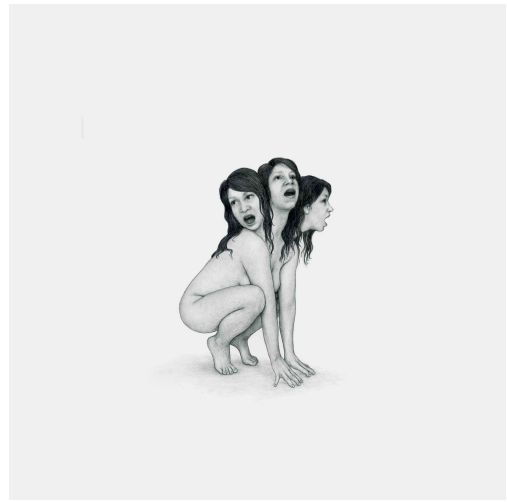


Goddesses and Monsters

New Drawings by Monica Zeringue

April 1- April 23, 2013

Opening Reception Saturday, April 6, 6-9 pm



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(New Orleans, Louisiana) March 22, 2013

Jonathan Ferrara Gallery is proud to announce *Goddesses and Monsters*, the debut solo exhibition of new drawings by artist Monica Zeringue. Zeringue creates ethereal and spellbinding works that abound with references to mythology. Adaptations of the artist's self-portrait recur in varying configurations throughout her canvases, often bound together by knots and masses of hair. Her fluid graphite drawings are typically drafted on heavily primed linen, occasionally incorporating embroidery and other mixed media embellishments. The artist's own image serves as the agent to move the viewer into her musing allegorical landscapes.

Goddesses and Monsters will be on view from April 1st- April 23rd, 2013, with an artist reception Saturday, April 6th, from 6-9 pm.

Zeringue says of these works:

In my new drawings, I am using imagery from ancient Greek and Roman tales particularly the trials of Hercules, and weaving a new mythology with myself as the center. The symbols become something completely new in this totally different context, but still recall goddesses, monsters and mortals struggling for survival, power and a place in the world. The figures in the drawings are self-portraits. I am tracing my struggles with identity, trying on new ones. I am a beast, a savior, a nurturer, frightened and then frightening. The hope is that as I become braver in the making of art, I will become braver in my life.

The drawings are both descriptive and sparse. The open, empty space in the drawings play off of the finely rendered images to create a timeless dream-like space, where only certain information is given in exquisite detail but the rest must be imagined. I want them to be beautiful, yet also challenging and confrontational.

Monica Zeringue received her Masters of Fine Arts from the University of New Orleans in 2006, and her BA in 1993. In 1999 she was awarded the Prix de l'Academie de Paris, Societe Internationale des Beaux-Arts. She had exhibited her work at the Meadows Museum of Art, Contemporary Arts Center, and the Lauren Rogers Museum of Art with a solo exhibition, as well as numerous gallery solo exhibitions in New Orleans since 1999. Her drawings and paintings have been exhibited in group exhibitions throughout the United States. Zeringue's work is included in the public collections, including the New Orleans Museum of Art, The Diane and Sandy Besser collection, Frederick R Weisman Art Foundation Collection, Los Angeles, CA, the Alexandria Museum of Art, Alexandria, LA, and the Arts Council of New Orleans.

Zeringue lives and works in New Orleans.