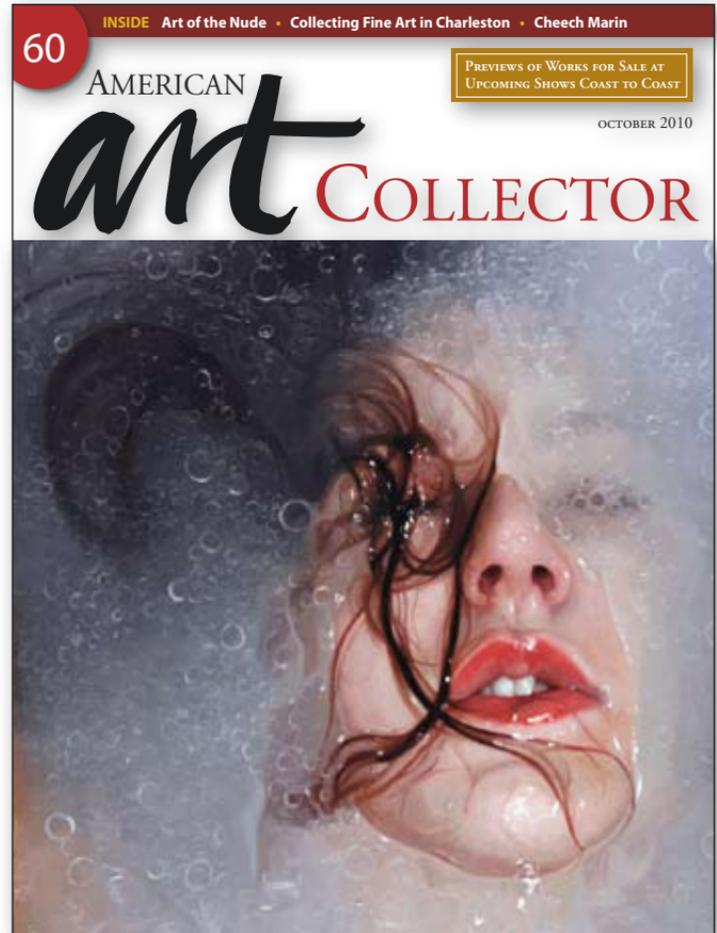


As seen in the
October 2010 issue of

 AMERICAN
art COLLECTOR



UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 15 works

October 1-23, 2010

Blue Rain Gallery

130 Lincoln Avenue

Santa Fe, NM 87501

(505) 954-9902

• SHOW LOCATION SANTA FE, NM

RIK ALLEN

Incortex

Rik Allen's glass sculptures mine the rich vein between the outward mysteries of creation and the inward journeys of the human imagination. What began several years ago as an exploration of the iconic rocket ship in its purest form has evolved into a contemplation of the role of individuals in our finite world, all in relation to the infinite

complexity and vastness of the cosmos.

For his first solo show at Blue Rain Gallery, titled *Incortex*, Allen offers mixed media work based on glass sculpture. His expressions are revealed in steel, wire, metal and blown glass covered in silver foil. Some pieces are simple, others more complex. He categorizes the work as fliers, walkers, and landers. Walkers are

the most biological form; fliers are mounted horizontal off the surface and reflective of the organic; and landers are more vertical, anchored to a territorial body, and reflect potential energy or potential experience.

"I think of all these pieces as reflecting on a perception of yourself experiencing your world, life, our environment," says Allen, "and rocket



HEXADIAL PERCEPTIPOD (AYENO KUNGFU), BLOWN GLASS, SILVER, STEEL BASE, 16 x 18 x 8"



S.E.E. WATCHER, BLOWN GLASS, SILVER, STEEL, 22 X 19 X 8"



MEZZA MODULE, BLOWN GLASS, SILVER, 14 X 6 X 6"

The Gallery Says . . .

"Rik Allen captures our attention and imaginations with his truly unique exploratory expressions in glass. Upon contemplating Allen's work, one truly feels a sense of future, past, and other dimension."

— Denise Marie Rose, Vice President of Business Development, Blue Rain Gallery

ships are a great metaphor for what we are."

Over the years Allen has created a number of spaceship pieces and rockets with a reoccurring theme of ladders, a winding staircase and a solitary chair.

"I do a lot with bubbly glass in the interior. You look in the windows and see what reflects to be a starry sky. Those illustrate the narrative I have going on in a lot of these pieces," says Allen.

Some of the new pieces have a connection to science and physics and crossover to a more biological form and robotics. Others have a more organic walking-type quality as illustrated in *S.E.E. Watcher*, which is intentionally more mechanical.

"It has a single lifeguard chair inside that looks out. People have told me they like to put themselves in there," says Allen.

Similarly, some of the pieces in the show reflect another new theme based on a single idea of vision, or perception: an eyeball-like main body, or spherical eyeball.

"Some of these are tied into biology. Several of them are called 'perceptipods,' the vehicle that we see the outside world, in a variety of forms like walking and flying," explains Allen.

Allen's sculptures feel neither new nor old but simultaneously ancient and future—forever enduring—and reminiscent of a time

before the Age of Plastics when objects were built to last decades, centuries, and perhaps millennia. Despite their overt technological form, in each piece there is a celebration of human imperfection and a nod toward life's entropic nature—a slight skew in symmetry, bubbles suffusing a glass surface, corroded metallic structures—all evidence of the power of the natural world. ●

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to

www.americanartcollector.com

