

CATHARINE CLARK GALLERY



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, CA
March 31, 2012

What..... Solo Exhibition: Nina Katchadourian: *Seat Assignment*

Exhibition Dates..... April 14 – May 26, 2012

Opening Reception..... Reception Saturday, April 14, 3–5pm

Where..... Catharine Clark Gallery

150 Minna Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

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San Francisco, CA: Catharine Clark Gallery announces *Seat Assignment*, a solo exhibition of new works by **Nina Katchadourian**. The exhibition dates are April 14 through May 26, 2012. The artist will be present for the reception on Saturday, April 14, from 3 to 5pm.

Nina Katchadourian's fifth solo exhibition at Catharine Clark Gallery, *Seat Assignment*, consists of photographs, video, and digital images made entirely in flight. The project began spontaneously on a flight from New York to Atlanta in 2010 and has continued on seventy subsequent flights to date. Acting "incognito" as a bored traveler simply killing time, Nina uses only her camera phone and materials readily available to her on the airplane to work in a highly improvisatory manner, yielding works that range from the humorous to the mystical and from the anxious to the sublime. Looking for overlooked points of interest in the mundane, Katchadourian works in response to the purgatory-like confines of air travel, when most people are trying to "just get through it", and challenges herself to use the time to be observant, highly resourceful, and relentlessly creative. A picture in a travel magazine covered with crumbled pretzels become the scene of a landslide; a carefully-folded sweater resembles the face of a gorilla; an inflatable neck pillow and tissues, donned in the airplane lavatory, turn the artist into the subject of a Flemish portrait.

Processes such as collecting and sorting are operative in many of Katchadourian's projects. In the *Sorted Books* series (1993 and ongoing), the artists reorders books in libraries and personal book collections and then photographs the results so that book spines become short phrases representing the content of the larger collection. For *CARPARK* (1994), incoming traffic was organized by color into 14 different parking lots on a community college campus. In *The Genealogy of the Supermarket* (2005), she organized the images of brand characters on common grocery store products into a family tree so that they all appear to be interrelated. *Seat Assignment* has also been organized into many sub-categories: *Landscapes*, *High-Altitude Spirit Photography*, *Disaster Scenes*, *Provisional Shelters*, *Birds of New Zealand*, *Sweater Gorillas*, *Creatures*, *Extreme Sports*, and *Lavatory Self-Portraits in the Flemish Style*, among others. The *Sleepers* series, also on view in the exhibition, show images of the passengers who have fallen asleep beside the artist on flights over the past two years. The photographs, displayed in a 20-foot wide row, become a composite view of the interior of an airplane.

A native Californian, Nina Katchadourian was born in Stanford and grew up spending her summers on a small island in the Finnish archipelago, where she still spends part of each year. Her diverse practice encompasses many media, including photography, sculpture, video, and sound. Her work has been exhibited domestically and internationally at venues such as PS1/MoMA, New York; The Serpentine Gallery, London; Dunedin Art Gallery, Dunedin, New Zealand; New Langton Arts, San Francisco; Artist Space, New York; Sculpture Center, New York; and the Palais de Tokyo, Paris. Her work has been published in a number of national and international book editions, and has received critical attention in *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *The New York Times*, *Art Review (UK)*, *Art in America*, *ARTnews*, and *Artforum*, among other publications. In June 2006 the Tang Museum in Saratoga Springs exhibited a 10-year survey of her work and published an accompanying monograph titled *All Forms of Attraction*. The Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego presented a solo show of recent video installations in July 2008. In February 2010 she was the artist in residence at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery in Dunedin, New Zealand, where she first exhibited the *Seat Assignment* series. Nina is currently at work on a permanent public piece, commissioned by the GSA, for a border-crossing station between the US and Canada. In the spring of 2013, Chronicle Books will release a monograph on Nina's *Sorted Books* series. Katchadourian lives and works in Brooklyn, NY, and has shown with Catharine Clark Gallery since 1999.



Albatross from the High-Altitude Spirit Photography series, 2010



Lavatory Self-Portrait in the Flemish Style #18-19, 2011

About Catharine Clark Gallery

Established in 1991, Catharine Clark Gallery presents the work of contemporary artists. A wide range of media is represented in the gallery's program with an emphasis on content-driven work that challenges both the traditional use of materials and formal aesthetics. Catharine Clark Gallery was the first San Francisco gallery to create a dedicated media room, presenting new genres and experimental video art with each changing exhibition. Exhibitions are hosted on a six-week schedule and generally feature one or two solo presentations in addition to media room installations. The gallery regularly participates in national and international art fairs.

Housed in a former 1920s farming equipment warehouse, redesigned by Los Angeles-based architectural designer Tim Campbell, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, is situated among numerous arts-related landmark buildings in San Francisco's Yerba Buena Neighborhood; it is adjacent to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), the Museum of the African Diaspora (MOAD), near the Contemporary Jewish Museum, and the Museum of Craft and Folk Art, and is housed on the ground floor of the same historical building as SF Camerawork. The gallery is open Tuesday–Saturday, 11am–6pm. For more information, please visit www.cclarkgallery.com or email info@cclarkgallery.com.

In March of 2010, the gallery opened [Catharine Clark Gallery, New York](#), a project space in a residential apartment in New York's Chelsea neighborhood. Installations of gallery artists' work are presented as "pop-up" exhibits at the New York location several times a year (313 West 14th Street, Apt. 2F, between 8th and 9th Avenues). To date, the New York gallery has presented a group show about contemporary drawings, and solo exhibitions of Anthony Disenza, Adam Chapman, Scott Greene, and Walter Robinson's work. A solo exhibition of works by Stephanie Syjuco will be presented beginning in May.

2012 Advanced Exhibition Listings

San Francisco

April 14 – May 26

Nina Katchadourian: *Seat Assignment*

Reception Saturday, April 14, 3–5pm

New York

Through April

Walter Robinson

May – November

Stephanie Syjuco

Receptions Friday, May 4, 6–9pm

Saturday, May 5, 7–10pm

Sunday, May 6, 10am–2pm

Art Fairs

May 17 – 20

ArtMRKT, San Francisco

October 18–21

Texas Contemporary, Houston

December 5–9

Miami Project, Miami