

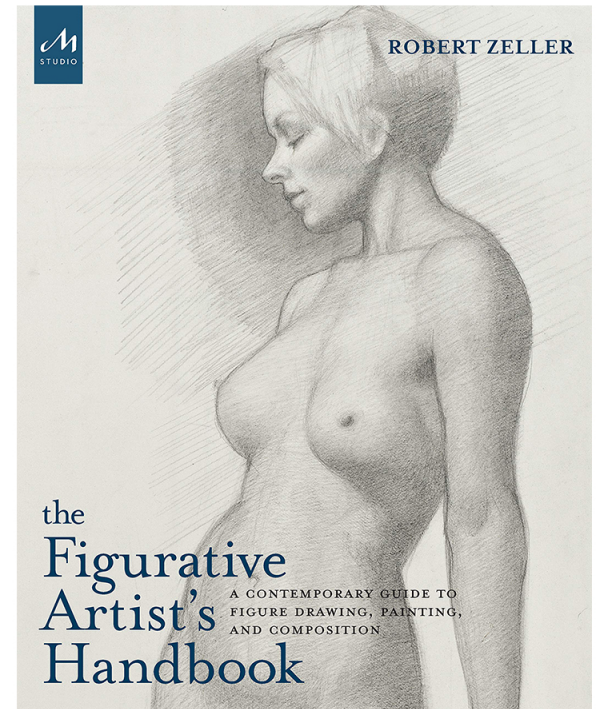
CHRISTIAN JOHNSON

Christian Johnson has tapped into artistic threads from early Modernism or Premodernism, but forged his own process. His designs for the figure are highly original and sophisticated as a result. He uses flat space and shapes not unlike Japanese prints from the Edo and early Meiji Periods, but his understanding of mark-making is rooted in the Western tradition. One can see traces of some of the great Fin de Siècle artists (such as Egon Schiele and Gustav Klimt) and Symbolists (like Odilon Redon), but Johnson has developed his own unique language for the figure, anatomy, and concept of space. Aesthetically, his palette can perhaps be best described as “Zen gray,” reminiscent of the gray encaustics of Jasper Johns.

Here we see both a stenocut print and a large acrylic painting. His figures inhabit a quiet, very personal space while being quite formal in a design sense. One could say that Johnson uses the figure as a means of meditation on both.

ABOVE: Christian Johnson, *Twelve Easy Pieces, No. 1*, 2010, stenocut, 16 x 12 inches (40.6 x 30.5 cm)

OPPOSITE: Christian Johnson, *Untitled*, 2013, acrylic, ink, and graphite on canvas, 60 x 48 inches (152.4 x 121.9 cm)



THE REMIX

Click and Frame

Who said the art world has to be a spectator sport? For those who aren't prepared (psychologically or financially) to set foot in a gallery, the Internet is a rich resource for discovering compelling and — dare we say it? — affordable art. JULIA LEACH

Arielle Sandler

Painting is alive and well in Chicago, as indicated by these vibrant canvases. Fascinated by color and the materiality of oil paint, Sandler applies impasto layers, which suggest landmasses and horizons. \$125 to \$6,000. www.ariellesandlerstudio.com



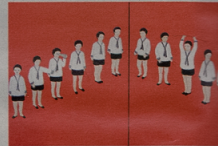
Gordon Hull

This artist's lo-fi drawings, photographs and videos play with symbolism, suggesting an everyday dream world where the collision of imagery and text results in visual metaphors. Tim Barber of Tinyvices.com will publish a book of Hull's drawings this winter in collaboration with Rhizome at the New Museum. \$500 and up. www.beyondthevanishingpoint.com



Dana Costello

There are hints of Henry Darger in the vibrant canvases of the West Coast painter Dana Costello, who (surprise) finds inspiration in her Catholic-school days and primordial landscapes. Androgynous children in crisp uniforms stir memories of youth's dark side. \$500 to \$5,000. www.danacostello.com



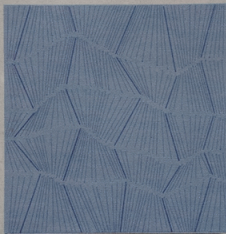
Christian Johnson

These honest, spare drawings and paintings offer a respite from today's more aggressive art. An assistant to the painters Eric Fischl and April Gornik, Johnson creates four-foot-tall charcoal drawings that are arresting in their scale and sensuality. \$1,000 to \$5,500. www.christianjohnsonart.com



Holly Miller

Intimate and confident, Miller's canvases and works on paper are animated by the use of color and the three-dimensionality of threads that stretch from pore to pore. \$600 to \$6,000. www.hollymillerart.com



Jason Fulford

Balancing harmony and dissonance, punk and propriety, Fulford's images invite you into mysterious narratives, out of which you must find your way. With Leanne Shapton, Fulford also publishes collectible books for the J&L imprint. \$1,500 to \$5,000. www.jasonfulford.com

The well-curated sites below offer work by up-and-coming artists, some for as little as \$20. www.20x200.com Limited-edition artworks start at \$20. www.tinyvices.com A trove of artwork, from photography to painting, art books to zines. www.wantedparis.com Novice-friendly photography. www.mixedgreens.com Painting, sculpture, video and photography.

NOW WEARING | NEXT-GEN FENDI

The Fendi clan has a new rising star, and it's not a fur-covered tote. Delfina Delettrez, the 20-year-old daughter of the designer Silvia Fendi, is crafting jewelry laden with skulls, spiders and other creepy-crawlies. "I have a phobia of insects, and this is the only way I can touch them," explains Delettrez, whose fans include Asia Argento and the family pal Karl Lagerfeld. She plans to open a boutique near Rome's Piazza Navona around Christmas and is confident that the baubles — which mix materials like wood, leather and bone with Massa-Carrara marble, diamonds and sapphires — will be worn by her friends and by more traditional customers. "The minimum price is 300 euros," she says, "and the maximum — well, it's not very elegant to say." ARMAND LIMNANDER



art and soul
HOLIDAY 2007
The actress Natalie Portman

These honest spare drawings and paintings offer a respite from today's more aggressive art... Johnson creates four-foot-tall charcoal drawings that are arresting in their scale and sensuality.

--Julia Leach