

Contact: Susan Roecker 917 903 0838

October 2012

East Village Dance Project / GOH Productions

present

cat

an exhibition of ink drawings & woodcuts by

SUSAN ROECKER

November 18, 2012 – February 10, 2013

Artist's Reception – Sunday, November 18, 1-6 pm

Avenue C Studio

55 Avenue C (at 4th Street) NYC



“How alive can a few strokes of black on a sheet of white paper be? Those few strokes can convey the very essence of life if they are Susan Roecker’s cat ink drawings. The lines are strong but playful, attentive but flowing. They do more than express cat, they become cat.

The subject is a particular cat, clearly well known and loved, and yet he is also Everycat, secure in his own space in his familiar self-possessed way. If you have ever known a cat well, you will recognize these moves and postures. Roecker’s sensory-rich style captures the purr, the pounce, the tail twitch, even the feel of a cat weaving between your ankles. And although they are simply black on white, the depths of black and the evocative negative spaces create stark dimension and real movement.

The transformative nature of art yields a macrocosm within the microcosm. The tight focus on cat reveals the larger natural world: the arched ridge of spine suggesting mountains; the gentle curve of rest becomes a still pond; alert pre-pounce energy crackles with electricity like a bank of thunderheads.

How alive can a few strokes of black on a sheet of white paper be? Explore Susan Roecker’s cat exhibition at Avenue C Studio and find out.”

T.M. Bradshaw

Susan Roecker’s work has been shown in many exhibitions in New York City, throughout the United States, in Europe, Africa, China, and at the International Artists Society’s Inaugural Exhibition in Chiba, Japan. She has received awards from the National Association of Women Artists, the National League of American Pen Women, and First Prize at the 12th Annual Tompkins Square Park Art Festival, NYC. This was awarded for her work as director of the 90-piece futuristic sculpture installation, “The Destruction of Crete.”

Roecker has received grants from the Cultural Coalition of Staten Island for a mural for Staten Island University Hospital, from the Snug Harbor Cultural Center for a mural in the Staten Island Ferry Terminal, and from Cow Parade New York for “The Greenhorn,” which was placed at both the Central Park Petting Zoo and the U.S. Open in Queens.

Beyond painting, another career-long passion for Roecker has been organizing and curating exhibitions for public places with the objective of putting art that is accessible before the public at large. These included nontraditional locations in inner-city neighborhoods, as well as institutions and business locations. “Art needs to live and breathe in communities, both reflecting and lifting up the spaces it occupies,” Roecker says. “It must coexist to exist.”

Roecker also has taught Masters Drawing at The Art Lab at Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Staten Island, since 1995.

EAST VILLAGE DANCE PROJECT, based in New York City, was founded in 1997 as a dance development program for youth age 4-18, under the artistic direction of Martha Tornay. Youth and Adult dance classes are held at their Avenue C Studio.

GOH Productions is a non-profit arts services organization presenting dance, theatre, music, visual arts and educational programs. The GOH Family includes: East Village Dance Project, Art in Odd Places, Czechoslovak American Marionette Theatre, Carrie Beehan/Trystette, The School of Hard Knocks, Polli Talu Arts Center, & Absolute Ensemble.

Hours: Monday-Friday 3-7pm, Saturday 10-5; or, for appointment, email eastvillagedanceproject@gmail.com

www.eastvillagedanceproject.com • www.susanroecker.com