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MAY 4TH THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL ART GALLERY'S ANNUAL BENEFIT & AUCTION

January 14, 2013, Featured Articles, Previews

## Charlie Kaplan: Sculpture, Pleasing Curves

Mon, Jan 14, 2013

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A selection of hand-carved marble sculptures by Los Angeles based artist, Charlie Kaplan. Opens January 19 at PYO Gallery LA.



Drawn from a collection of works Kaplan created in a 24-year period, the show concentrates on sculptures that fuse his signature biomorphic forms with a soulful modernist style. The majority of works in the exhibition are sculpted from Carrara marble with additional pieces carved from alabaster, Belgian black marble, Rosso Laguna marble and Bianco Puro Carrara marble. A selection of bronze and stainless steel sculptures are also included.

These luxurious materials are transformed into sparse silhouettes that express a primal state, where sensuality and sexuality, are celebrated within a single monolith.

Inspired by the minimalist curves of Constantin Brancusi and the monumental forms of Henry Moore, Kaplan honors their influence through the elegant forms that trace the path of his intuitive hand; to the bond he has with the elemental forces of creation.

Kaplan employs a method of free association, where the materials actually inform the outcome of his works. Often, layers of marble are stripped away to uncover the artworks that lay trapped within his psyche. Charles Fulmer, a former instructor at the American Jewish University, who has witnessed Kaplan's evolution as an artist recalls, "Charlie has more confidence now as an artist in what has always been a natural and instinctive talent."

Ashton Allen  
Stripes #9

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In 1995 Kaplan journeyed to Pietrasanta, in Tuscany and found a supportive community of artisans, who instilled a passion and understanding of marble, which developed his technical and creative prowess. Kaplan's presence amongst the close-knit community of Italian artisans was acknowledged in 2009 when his sculpture "Flight" was selected by a jury to grace the pier of Pietrasanta during the city's second annual outdoor public art exhibit.

For the exhibition at PYO Gallery LA, Kaplan will also present a sculpture entitled "Soaring", which stands at 9 feet by 3 feet wide, amongst the chosen works completed recently in Italy and transported to Los Angeles especially for this exhibition.

Guests who visit the exhibition will be provided with gloves, to experience by touch, the sensual pleasing curves of the sculpture. University and college art instructors are specially invited to contact PYO Gallery LA to make arrangements for a private student tour with the artist.

Whitney Hubbs: The Song Itself is Already a Skip  
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This will be primarily an all-black show, engaging the literal and associative properties of reflective black surface materials. Opens January 19 at Diane Rosenstein's new gallery on Highland Avenue in Hollywood.

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##### **Cathy Daley: New Work**

Daley creates black oil pastel drawings of billowing dresses and gestural silhouettes on vellum that recall the aesthetic conventions of vintage fashion and cinematic glamour. Runs through March 8 at Edward Cella Art + Architecture.

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##### **Whitney Hubbs: The Song Itself is Already a Skip**

Dark, raw, powerful and swimming in sensuality, the work of Whitney Hubbs is at once blunt and lyrical, formal and improvised, recognizable to daily experience and yet totally foreign from it. Opens January 19 at M+B.

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##### **Frederick Hammersley: The Computer Drawings 1969**

Hammersley used early computer technology to make these drawings, a process that became pivotal to his artistic development. Opens January 17 at L.A. Louver, Venice.

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