



16 Aug 2017

Hope and Hazard: A Comedy of Eros

Hall Art Foundation

Reviewed by Elizabeth Michelman

Curator Eric Fischl's focus on the figure favors the (sexual) parts over the whole, often leaving us feeling overstimulated and unconsummated.

The works polarize pleasure and pain, critique sexual power games, question the dominance of the male gaze, and probe anxieties about death, loneliness, and tenderness. But the insistent sensationalism obscures the realization that art itself is an erotic process.

Nicole Eisenman's line charmingly meanders between lovers' lips. Chantal Joffe paints the rough lives of urban prostitutes with smears and drips, while Joan Semmel turns us on with hot-house color fields that become orgasmic shudders.

The ceramic orbs and nipples of Robert Arneson's bulbous *Six-pack*, Hannah Wilke's chewing-gum vulvas, and Jason Rhoades's empty silver bezel mimicking the great Black Stone of Mecca speak to primal emotions. But the shadow over Ellen Berkenblit's hapless mouse-child, abused in midair by a man twice her size, chills body and soul.

Exhibition	Hope and Hazard: A Comedy of Eros link
Start date	06 May 2017
End date	26 Nov 2017
Presenter	Hall Art Foundation link
Venue	544 VT Route 106, Reading, VT, USA map
Image	Nicole Eisenman, Untitled, 2011, mixed media, monotype, 24 1/2 x 19 inches, courtesy of the Hall Collection, © Nicole Eisenman
Links	Reviews of current exhibitions near this one Reviews by Elizabeth Michelman Permalink
Share	Facebook , Twitter , Google+

the **Weekly Letter**.

© 2017 Delicious Line Inc.