

Dragana B. Stevanovic New Paintings for the New Happiness

L2kontemporary proudly presents Dragana B. Stevanovic's first US solo exhibit. Please join us at our opening evening for this exciting and talented artist from Serbia.

The reception for the artist will be held on Saturday evening, **June 25, 7 to 10 pm**. The exhibits continues through **July 23, 2005**

Gallery Hours:
Thursday – Saturday, 12 – 6 pm or by appointment.



I grew up under different social, political and cultural circumstances getting used to constant depression, war and absence of culture politics and an adequate system of values.

Before I started drawing and painting 15 years ago, I had already had some experience in modern dance, so movement in many different aspects (such as action during the painting process) became important for me. I started searching for similarities in creative processes and for meanings in final products of a creative process (whether it's a painting, a drawing, a performance or a photograph).

My last series of paintings resulted from intensive dealing with drawings and black and white paintings as well as working on documentary photographs.

This series is based on two different notions:

1. Sounds and letters of English, Spanish and my mother tongue – Serbian, can be used in a symbolic way, together with notes and visual interpretations of everyday life.
2. Figures (i.e. figural forms) always have a starting point in real people I communicate with and situations I participate in.

I work intuitively, using gesture, often working with both hands and rotating canvas on purpose to capture the moment. I use charcoal, oil pen stick and dry pastel to get in a closer touch with the canvas I had already painted with acrylic colors.

Empathy and communication are important concepts in my life and my work and that's why I choose painting as a medium. Hence, the observer is important in the process of my work. What I offer is a variety of colors, signs and messages that are to find their final meanings in viewers' minds and emotions.

Abundance of colors and symbolic meanings of figures and signs should produce the feeling of joy and the realization of the necessity to capture the best moments in life.

