

Upcoming Exhibit at The Filley

January 14th through March 18, 2016 "A Sense of His Soul" Photography Exhibit by Dennis Hodges





Saturday, February 20th, at 6pm Join us for Drinks and Discussion: A Gallery Talk by Dennis Hodges

A Special Event for Members

A sense of his soul
"The eyes are the mirror of the soul." – Proverb

The key feature of the human face is the eyes. When we first meet another person, we make eye contact. The eyes are what we look at when we talk with another person to ensure they understand us; to ensure we understand them. Eyes express the truth of what a person feels, thinks or believes.

As writers and philosophers have noted through millennia, the eyes interpret what the soul believes.

Dennis Hodges

In this context, then, the focus is only on eyes in "A sense of his soul" strips away any cultural identification; clothing, hair style or other traits, characteristics or traditions that would identify a person from a specific area or culture are absent thereby making all subjects in this work equal in the eyes of the viewer. We can learn about them only from what their eyes tell us.

U.S. President George W. Bush, after his first meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, remarked that he "looked the man in the eye... [and] was able to get a sense of his soul."

In Central and Eastern Europe, as well as Latin America, politics are still relatively unvarnished, few if any "handlers" exist and Photoshop is

not liberally applied to photos. Political candidates use posters that include portraits of themselves to generate interest and, hopefully, votes in the coming election. Posters that, presumably, the candidates personally choose the portrait for. Portraits that the candidates feel best represent how they want to be seen and perceived by the voting populace.

This series, shot during recent elections in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Serbia, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Croatia, Romania and Guatemala, attempts to give us a glimpse into the mind of the politicians that run today's countries by focusing only on their eyes in the portraits from their political posters.

Look, then, into the eyes of these politicians and gain a sense of their souls.

Vote for me.

Dennis Hodges' photography reflects how he views the world: as one huge creative playground where he tries to capture bits and pieces to share with others. He's not constrained by certain themes; rather he continually tries new subjects as he finds them or borrows them. They build on one another and he finds that the story is evolving. Other artists work with a mix of media; Dennis does the same, changing techniques and cameras as the situation dictates.

Holding a Bachelor of Philosophy in Aesthetics and Humanities, Dennis is a skilled storyteller drawing on a variety of contemporary themes to create his narratives. His photographs have appeared in B&W (US), Black+White (UK), COLOR (US), and other prominent magazines, and in galleries, festivals and museums around the world, from Russia, Portugal and Spain to the U.S., Guatemala, Argentina and Australia. His work is part of the permanent collection of the Museum of Fine Arts Houston and the Robert I. Kahn Gallery, Congregation Emanu El, Houston as well as a number of private collections.

Born and raised in Kansas, Dennis currently lives in Kansas with his wife, Judit, after a long-term residence in Budapest, Hungary. An avid traveler, he has explored six of the world's seven continents and tries to visit a new country each year, continually bring fresh cultural perspectives to his art.

Dennis Hodges Website: www.dennishodges.com

Upcoming Events @ The Filley

January 9th, 6pm: Private Legacy Arts Society Event: Live pottery throw/ wheel demo by Marsha Shrack. Sponsored by David M Chacko, MD, PhD and Dasa V. Gangadhar, MD.

South Gallery: January 14th to March 18th: Dennis Hodges photo exhibit "A sense of his soul"

North Gallery: February 6th to April 8th: Artists from Medicine Lodge @The Filley: Earl Kuhn, David Vollbracht, Elisa Stone, and Caroline Norton.

February 6th at 6pm: Opening Reception for Kuhn, Vollbracht, Stone, & Norton exhibit: \$10 non-members; FREE for Members. Meet the artists!

February 20th: 6pm Drinks and Discussion gallery talk with artist Dennis Hodges; Members only.

Sneak Peak ahead to this season's exhibitions:

Filley North Gallery: April 23rd to August 12, 2016: Artists John DeAndrea and Ariel DeAndrea will bring a once in a lifetime exhibit to Pratt, KS. John DeAndrea, Verist sculptor, is internationally celebrated and renowned for his hyperrealist human figure sculptures (polyvinyl or polychromed bronze cast) that are typically posed in true-to-life positions, pushing the boundaries of realism to the extreme. John's daughter, Ariel DeAndrea, is an accomplished realist painter, currently residing in NY. Ariel explores the movement, life and spirituality in the design and symbolism of an otherwise lifeless object: the origami crane. Her Oil paintings feature the paper birds in natural settings, bodies of water from around the world. Father and Daughter will exhibit side by side for the very first time!

North Gallery: August 20th to December 3rd, 2016: Carol Long Pottery: Remarkable artist of St. John, Carol Long, draws influence from plant and animal life and is fascinated by the small complexities of the micro aspects of nature. Her work continues to evolve as she experiments with new ways of expressing the tiny beautiful intrinsic qualities of nature that we often take for granted. More about Carol Long Pottery at carollongpottery.com