



Stags' Leap

Stags' Leap Winery: A Guide to the Estate

Digital Press Kit

I. Artist Statements and Bios

Publication: *Stags' Leap Winery: A Guide to the Estate*

Project Author, Designer, Production Artist, Production Manager: Theresa Whitehill

Website: www.coloredhorse.com/

Poet Bio:

www.coloredhorse.com/WritingPoetry/poetry/Theresa-Whitehill-Poet-Bio.pdf

Book Design Bio:

www.coloredhorse.com/GraphicDesign/Whitehill-Resume-Book-Design.pdf

Artist Statement:

Theresa Whitehill, poet, letterpress printer, and book designer, is cofounder of Colored Horse Studios, along with her husband, artist Paulo Ferreira. As working artists they bring a unique perspective to creative services for marketing and publishing, often combining poetic essays with newsletter design, logo creation that is based on telling the story of a business, beer branding complete with original illustration, and book production skills that include attention to details of the manuscript.

Trained in book arts at Mills College in the early 1980s, Whitehill went on to become an accomplished letterpress printer and production manager while maintaining an active life as a working poet, publisher, and producer of literary events. The letterpress poetry broadsides of Colored Horse Studios are in many national and private collections, including Brown University's John Hay Library, the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley, Stanford University, and the Getty Center.

Her work with Stags' Leap Winery began in 1998, when she was Poet-in-Residence for the project *Napa Valley: Portrait of a Community*, interviewing subjects who sat for portraits painted by artist Patrick McFarlin, and crafting those interviews into literary portraits to accompany the paintings. The winery later hired her to design and write their newsletters, which she did twice a year from 2000 until 2006.

An opportunity to bring all of her skills into focus on a single project came about when Stags' Leap commissioned her to create an estate book. The winery was interested in a publication that would be informative and innovative at the same time, in keeping with the spirit of an estate with historical significance, extraordinary natural history, a dedication to the arts and literature, and world-class wines.



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Volume I: *The Book of Rules*
Artist: Dana DeKalb
Media: Acrylic
Website: www.danadekalb.com/
Exhibitions: www.danadekalb.com/bio/index.html
Represented by: heathermarxgallery.com/

Artist Statement:

My paintings are rooted in the narrative tradition. I've always been fascinated by visual storytelling, especially with legends and myths, but also with comic strips and high school yearbooks. My own stories are told from an outsider's perspective, the result of years spent as an American living abroad – I was born in Indonesia and spent my childhood as an ex-patriot in first through third world countries. I am a perennial observer, with a deep appreciation for the irony in our mutual misconceptions, as well as for our moments of connection.

In my work I present curious, open-ended narratives that explore the unexpected and exotic in seemingly familiar situations. Using odd props and visual non-sequiturs, the subjects apply themselves earnestly to improbable tasks with devotion and good humor, despite a certain discomfort. There is the suggestion of a parable or morality tale in progress but with the lesson left unstated. My intention is that the viewer will become as absorbed in the characters as they are in their tasks, and that perhaps some preconceptions will be gently teased along the way.

The paintings are primarily acrylic and incorporate multiple colored glazes which bathe the action in a sensual, tinted light. The resulting scenes are simultaneously nostalgic and disorienting, reminiscent of antique postcards, theatrical sets or posed museum dioramas. I develop the imagery from combinations of magazine clippings, family photos, pictures from old travel guides and social studies books. Other influences include Asian and European miniatures, terracotta tomb sculpture, early American genre painting and scientific illustration.

Dana DeKalb
San Francisco, California, 2006



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Volume II: *History, Culture and the Muse*
Artist: Olaf Beckmann
Media: Photography
Website: www.studiojaschinski.com/

Bio:

Born into a family of artists, Olaf Beckmann studied physics before making photography a full-time career in the early 90s. His photographs for the Stags' Leap books were shot with an 8x10 field camera. The long tonal range of the finished images, a characteristic of much of Beckmann's work, is achieved through a century-old technique of contact printing the negatives on paper that is hand coated with a blend of platinum and palladium in ferric oxalate.

His images reflect symmetries found in both nature and man-made settings.

Currently he is working on a large-scale edition of his photographs.



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Volume III: *Ne Cede Malis*
Artist: Patrick McFarlin
Media: Oil and Charcoal
Website: www.mcfarlinoil.com/
Exhibitions: www.mcfarlinoil.com/bio.html

Note: Patrick McFarlin's paintings are also included in Volume II of the Stags' Leap Estate Book series, *History, Culture and the Muse*.

Bio:

Patrick McFarlin is a self taught artist, aside from brief stints at Memphis Academy of Arts and California College of Arts and Crafts. As a teenager from the south, he used the articles "Tworkov paints a Picture," "de Kooning Paints a Picture," etc.. from *Art News* as a launching pad.

After encountering the collages by another southern artist, Craig Rubadueux, McFarlin began producing brushy portraits. He developed the portrait brush further in the nineties, falling into an open salon working style that he dubbed *Pat's Downtown Club*. The portraits that came out of these salons were exhibited at SITE Santa Fe in 1997, after which he took the project on the road in 1998 to Stags' Leap Winery in Napa, California, resulting in the collection and traveling exhibit, *Stags' Leap: Portrait of a Community*, made up of his paintings and the writings of Theresa Whitehill and Rod Smith. The portrait run continued with an exhibit at the Birmingham Museum of Art in 2001.

McFarlin's exhibiting career began after a move to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1965. His first one person show, cast aluminum sculpture, was at Light Sound Dimension Gallery in San Francisco. More shows followed until he was derailed by Eastern studies, which he pursued for ten years. Back on track and back in his home state of Arkansas, McFarlin produced national shows of paintings and sculptures. He now lives and works in Santa Fe, New Mexico.



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Volume IV: *Cartography*
Artist: Robert Rovira
Media: Engravings

Bio:

Roberto Rovira is a licensed landscape architect as well as a sculptor and printmaker. He obtained a Masters in Landscape Architecture from Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) in 1998, a Diplôme from the Université de Paris Sorbonne's Cours de Civilisation Française in 1995, and a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Cornell University in 1990.

After completing his undergraduate degree, he received a commission from the United States Navy, and served as Liaison Officer on board a Chilean tallship that sailed the coasts of North and South America, Europe and Africa. His last three years as Lieutenant in the U. S. Navy were aboard a frigate home-ported in Japan and serving in Southeast Asia, the Persian Gulf, and Australia. His varied background reveals itself in his interdisciplinary approach to many of his projects, where the ideas of layering, balance, transparency, and impermanence, come together in projects that blend landscape, architecture, and sculpture in unique ways. An accomplished printmaker, his fascination with culture, geography, and travel, as expressed through his printmaking work in cartography, was developed in his graduate thesis in 1997 and has led to various commissions and shows that explore the idea of mapping as both an art and a science.

Roberto's public art commissions include projects for the city of Seattle, Washington, as well as Fairfield, Oakland, and Vallejo, California. While at RISD, he founded Guerrilla Gardens, an installation group intent on provoking a critical reevaluation of existing urban spaces, by transforming them through the use of temporary and anonymous installations.

Roberto Rovira has been teaching at the Florida International University Landscape Architecture program since August of 2005. He is the recipient of numerous design awards and commissions including the 2006 Kauffman Prize sponsored by the Eugenio Pino Entrepreneurship Center, the 2005 Miami Monument International Design Competition sponsored by the American Institute of Architects-Miami Chapter and Spine3D, and the 100% Design Competition sponsored by Dalsouple International in 2000 in London, England.



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Volume V: *Voices from the Leap*
Artist: Dick Cole
Media: Watercolor

Bio:

Dick Cole is an illustrator and watercolorist with over 30 years experience in the field. A graduate of UCLA and the Art Center College of Design, he has worked as a graphic designer, art director, and illustrator in New York, Palo Alto, and San Francisco.

His recent fine arts awards include:

Gold Medal, Best of Show, California Watercolor Association 2000 National Exhibition
The National Watercolor Society 2000 show and traveling exhibition
Blue Ribbon, Best of Show, 2001 Grand National Exposition, San Francisco Cow Palace
N.W.S. Watercolor West Award, 2001, for best transparent watercolor
Watercolor West Founder's Award, 2003
N.W.S. National H.K. Holbein Award, 2003
Watercolor Society Ogden and Mary Pleissner Award, 2004
NWS / PWS Side by Side, best in show, 2004
CWA National, Charlotte Huntley Award, 2005
Sonoma Plein Air, 2005
Sonoma Valley Museum of Art Biennial, 2005

Cole was featured in the June/July 2004 issue of *International Artist* in a Watercolor Interiors article. He has garnered awards from the New York, San Francisco, Western, and Los Angeles Art Directors Clubs, as well as the San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York Societies of Illustrators.

A partial list of clients includes: Chevron, IBM, American Express, French's, Time Warner, A&M Productions, Hewlett Packard, Readers Digest, Ocean Spray, Chicago Tribune, Argonaut Insurance, Bank of Marin, Sutter Home Winery, Jordan Winery, Sonoma Cutrer Winery, Gloria Ferrer Champagne Cellars, Maxwell House Coffee, Apple, Kelham Family Winery and Stags' Leap Winery.

A fourth generation Californian, he has traveled widely, has a passion for Jazz and classical music, and enjoys fly fishing and writing poetry. He shares his Sonoma home with his wife, Diane Noyes-Cole, and a small spoiled dog, Max.