

Laura Kina

Aloha Dreams

June 9 - July 21, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Laura Kina: Aloha Dreams

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Opening reception: Saturday, June 9, 7:30 – 10pm

Miami, Florida/June 2007 - Diana Lowenstein Fine Arts is pleased to announce **Laura Kina's** second Miami solo exhibition, **Aloha Dreams**, on view in the main gallery during the June Wynwood Art District second Saturday gallery walk.

Kina's mixed media paintings explore dreams of paradise. Like the Post-Impressionist painter Paul Gauguin's paintings of Tahiti, Laura Kina's Aloha Dreams uses Hawai'i as a tropical muse to explore pattern, color, figuration and abstraction. Beyond the gloss and allure of palm trees and plate lunch, the works in this exhibition delve into a more complicated history using images from popular culture, textile design, and Kina's own family history as sugar cane plantation workers on the Big Island of Hawai'i to focus on immigration/migration, heritage tourism and Orientalist fantasies.

This project is partially supported by DePaul University Research Council grants, a Community Arts Assistance Program grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.



Laura Kina, "Tina Hyun Giving me a Pedicure" 2006, acrylic on canvas, 40x30 in.

About Laura Kina:

In 2001 Kina received her MFA in studio art from the University of Illinois at Chicago where she studied under noted painters Phyllis Bramson and Kerry James Marshall. She earned her BFA in painting from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1994. She is an Assistant Professor of Art & Art History at DePaul University where she teaches studio art and is an Asian American studies affiliated faculty member. Born in Riverside, California in 1973, the artist currently lives and works in Chicago, Illinois.

Diana Lowenstein Fine Arts

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Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10am - 5pm; Saturday 10am - 3pm

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*We will be closed the month of August.

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