



## **PREFACE**

Jason Franz

Executive Director and Chief Curator Editorial Curator for the INPA 4 For this fourth International Painting Annual Manifest received 1560 submissions from 563 artists in 45 states and 32 countries. The publication includes 124 works by 92 artists from 29 states and 9 countries including Canada, China, Colombia, England, France, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, and the United States. Written works by Philip Gerstein and Laura Grothaus are also included.

Fifteen anonymous professional and academic volunteers qualified in the fields of art, design, criticism, and art history juried the selection of works for this publication. The process of selection was by blind jury, with each juror assigning a quality rating for artistic merit to each work submitted. The entries receiving the highest average combined score are included in this publication. Award winners are those whose work received the highest scores of all. It should be noted that Manifest has no bias towards nor against specific types of painting, or kinds of art in general, and that the results of such a project are inevitably determined by the inclination of artists to participate, the nature of the pool of work submitted, and by the judgment of a deliberately broad jury.

All juried Manifest projects involve an intensive system of review and scoring based on objective standards, and are further honed through curatorial refinements to provide unity, prevent redundancy, and craft a worthy end result.

**Putting art in context gives it meaning.** Manifest was formed with the mission to attract and assemble excellent works of all types. Our space, in print or in the gallery, provides a context in which various assemblies

of visual art can be experienced and their individual qualities magnified by virtue of their combination to the benefit of the public and the artists involved. Manifest's books enable a wider reach, sharing more art with more people than our gallery exhibits can. Our publications are offered as yet another carefully crafted space in which art can prosper, and its inherent artist-driven energies be preserved, activated, multiplied, and released in meaningful ways.

The INPA allows Manifest to assemble and document the best painting of the most varied types being made around the world today.

The works included in this book offer a broad view into the current state of painting. Through the INPA 4 Manifest proudly showcases the work of this diverse collection of artists who are brought together to share the fruits of their inspiration and labor through this enduring artform.

As you turn the pages of this book and move from painting to painting, we hope you will be surprised, delighted, energized, and inspired by the discoveries you make.

We offer thanks to ArtsWave and the Ohio Arts Council for operating support, our supporting members, our communities of East Walnut Hills and Madisonville in Cincinnati, and the thousands of artists whose enthusiasm for this and other Manifest projects gives our organization life and relevance around the world. •



## MARGERY AMDUR

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

gouche, ink, pastel pigment, cosmetic sponges, canvas  $84" \times 108" \times \text{variable}$ 2012