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Contact: Brad Cooper 813-248-6098

YVONNE PETKUS Processing the Figure

March 8 – May 10, 2008

Brad Cooper Gallery is pleased to announce a solo exhibition of recent paintings and drawings by **Yvonne Petkus**, titled **"Processing the Figure."** An opening reception for the artist will be held on **Saturday, March 8, 7- 9 p.m. At 8p.m. Petkus will talk about the evolution of her imagery and how she explores the figure in her work.** The exhibit will be on view through May 10, 2008. The Brad Cooper Gallery is located at 1712 E. 7th Ave in YBOR CITY. Regular gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11am until 5pm.

Yvonne Petkus grew up in New Jersey and spent much of her early adult life in New York State and Manhattan. She then headed west to Seattle, WA where she was fortunate to have studied with such talented artists as Norman Lundin, Hanneline Rogeberg and Denzil Hurley, among others.



© Yvonne Petkus 2006, "The Tell", oil on canvas, 46" x 46"

"I see painting as a means to further our understanding of larger ideas. Over the last twenty years my figures have gone back and forth between solid, corporal presences and those that dissolve nearly completely into their backgrounds. In this exhibition, the figures seem to do both, evolving into states of fragmentation, ambiguity, veiling and distortion."

"I work from a place of questioning. The figures and their spaces find origin in the coexistent and contradictory worlds of an extreme conviction and self-doubt. Each painting is the tangible result of a mental and physical processing, a kind of thinking through the action of painting. The surfaces evolve through a type of sculpting; of physically pushing material around to gain hold of some fleeting truth which emerges from the skin of paint. The marks result over time, revealing a text of breaths which combine to reveal some insight into a momentary reality of the human condition."

YVONNE PETKUS

This is the third solo exhibition for Yvonne Petkus at Brad Cooper Gallery, since 2004. Petkus is currently a finalist for a Fulbright Grant to work in Dublin, Ireland and has received several awards for her work including a 2004 Individual Artist Fellowship Award from the Kentucky Arts Council. The *Kentucky Foundation for Women* also invited her to be a Panelist for the Artist Enrichment Grant Review in Louisville this past fall. Petkus currently lives in Bowling Green where she teaches at Western Kentucky University.

Further information about the artist and her exhibition can be viewed online @ www.bradcoopergallery.com.

Gallery Exhibition:	YVONNE PETKUS: PROCESSING THE FIGURE
Artist Reception:	Saturday evening, March 8 from 7 to 9 pm Artist Talk @ 8 pm
Exhibit Dates:	March 8 – May 10, 2008 – Events are free and open to the public
Where:	Brad Cooper Gallery / 1712 E 7th Ave. YBOR CITY (between 17th & 18th St)
Gallery Hours:	11am - 5 pm / Wed – Sat & by appointment.
Further Information:	Call 813-248-6098 for information or visit – www.bradcoopergallery.com

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