



Nina Meledandri, *Beneath the Skin XII*, oil and wax medium on canvas, 18" x 48", 2001

PRESS RELEASE

Nina Meledandri
October 13 – November 30, 2001
Sugar Hill Arts Center, Gallery One
555 West 151st Street (at Broadway)
Grand Opening: Saturday October 13th, 2001, 11AM - 6PM

The Sugar Hill Arts Center is pleased to present Nina Meledandri, Fred Mitchell and Julie Oakes in Gallery One for its Grand Opening celebration. Nina Meledandri will be showing paintings from her "Beneath The Skin" series; work that embodies two of her great passions: color and process. Meledandri has said: "color is the cornerstone of my work, it answers so many questions for me, it conveys meaning and creates mysteries. These paintings are largely about the effect of color and combinations of color, not as concise and precise as Albers but the roots are there". In this work, Meledandri's use of color captures a profound response to beauty. At the same time her underlying symbolism and repetitive marks speak of the scope of human experience from birth to death, from barrenness to growth, from despair to hope. The paintings in this series that were completed in the past few weeks retain their inherent beauty but the color has shifted in direct response to the events that have taken place.

A concern with process has been an integral part of this series. These paintings are the foundation of a web project: WIP (Work In Progress) that can be viewed at www.meledandri.com. WIP functions as a virtual flip book, documenting the stages of the individual pieces, allowing the viewer to participate in the highs and lows of the creative process.

In response to the events of 9/11/01, Meledandri launched **the ART project**: Artists Respond to Terrorism. Its intention is to create a visual forum for those who speak with images instead of words. It is in its very beginning stages as artists prepare work to submit. Below is a description; which we hope you will forward to those who might be interested in participating. Any feedback or support to bring this endeavor into the greater consciousness would be most welcomed.

Call for Artists: **the ART project**
Artists Respond to Terrorism
Join in a visual dialogue.
www.meledandri.com/theartproject.htm
(if successful, the site will move to www.theartproject.net)

In times of tragedy, such as we are in now, art is of the utmost importance. Some of it will heal, some will provide hope, some will convey anger and some a political message, it is all important. The format of the ART project is a page of thumbnails; from which you can view a larger image and information of the artist's choosing. There will be links to relevant sites. Please pass this information on to anyone you think might be interested.

Meledandri's "Beneath The Skin V" has been chosen for New Directions '01 at the Barrett Art Center, Poughkeepsie, NY (juror Charlotta Kotik, Curator of Contemporary Art at the Brooklyn Museum of Art). New Directions '01 runs from October 27-November 21, 2001.

For further information on the artist; visit www.meledandri.com
For additional information; contact Marilyn Rosenberg, at 212-491-5890