

2008 SEX TRAFFICKING CONFERENCE & HUMAN RIGHTS ART EXHIBITION

# 2008 Human Rights Exhibition Juror's Statement:

Human rights issues are a global concern as well as a regional problem. The 2008 exhibition continues to address and question many aspects of basic rights that all humans should be initialed. The show itself has grown and evolved from South Texas College student and faculty artists in the 2006 show focusing on sex trafficking to this year's international juried traveling exhibit. The show has become so popular that it is now divided among four gallery spaces and will be exhibited in both the United States and Mexico. This year's U.S. participating galleries are South Texas College and the University of Texas Pan American. Our Mexico hosts are the Progreso Art Gallery and the University of Monterrey, (UDEM).

RICHARD LUBBEN, EXHIBIT COORDINATOR & JUROR COMMUNICATIONS & CREATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

Antoaneta Hillman
Connie Freid
Deborah South McEvoy
Denis Sargent
Denek Buckner
Ed Check
Eleonora Garza

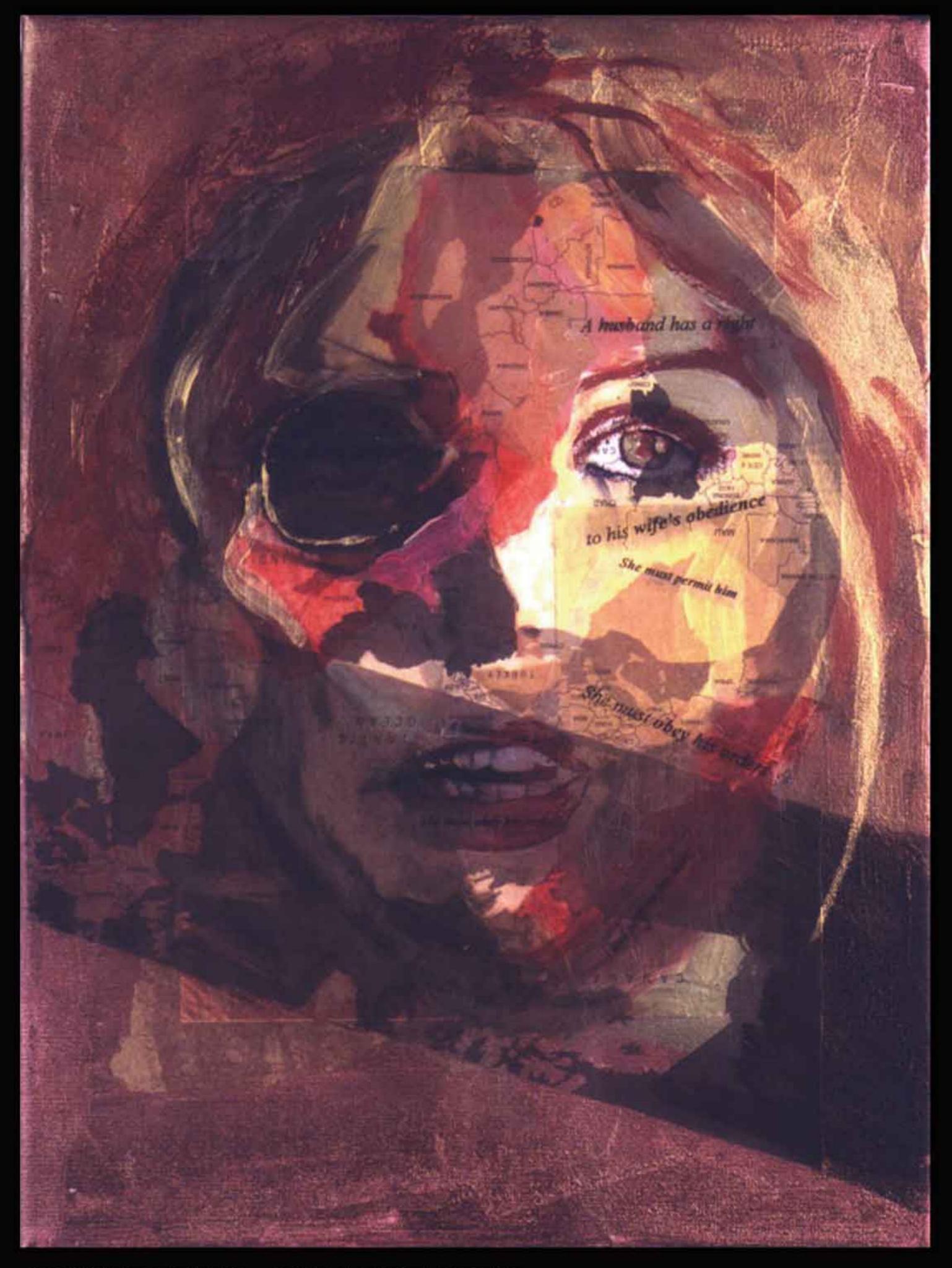
ELIZABETH ZABROKY
FRANK TIERNEY
FUTURE AKINS
GUADALUPE VICTORICA
JILL RENEE SMITH
JOSEPH HUTCHINSON
KIANOOSH GERAMI

LISETTE CHAVEZ
MARGARET PARKER
MAUREEN MULLEN
MAURICIO SAENZ
MONICA AISSA MARTINEZ
MOYA DEVINE
MURRY HANDLER

PAUL VALDEZ
PHYLLIS EVANS
ROBERT GILBERT
SUCHIL COFFMAN GUERRA
TERESA TREVINO
THOMAS JACKSON
THOMAS RUGGIO



ANTOANETA HILLMAN, LET ME FLY



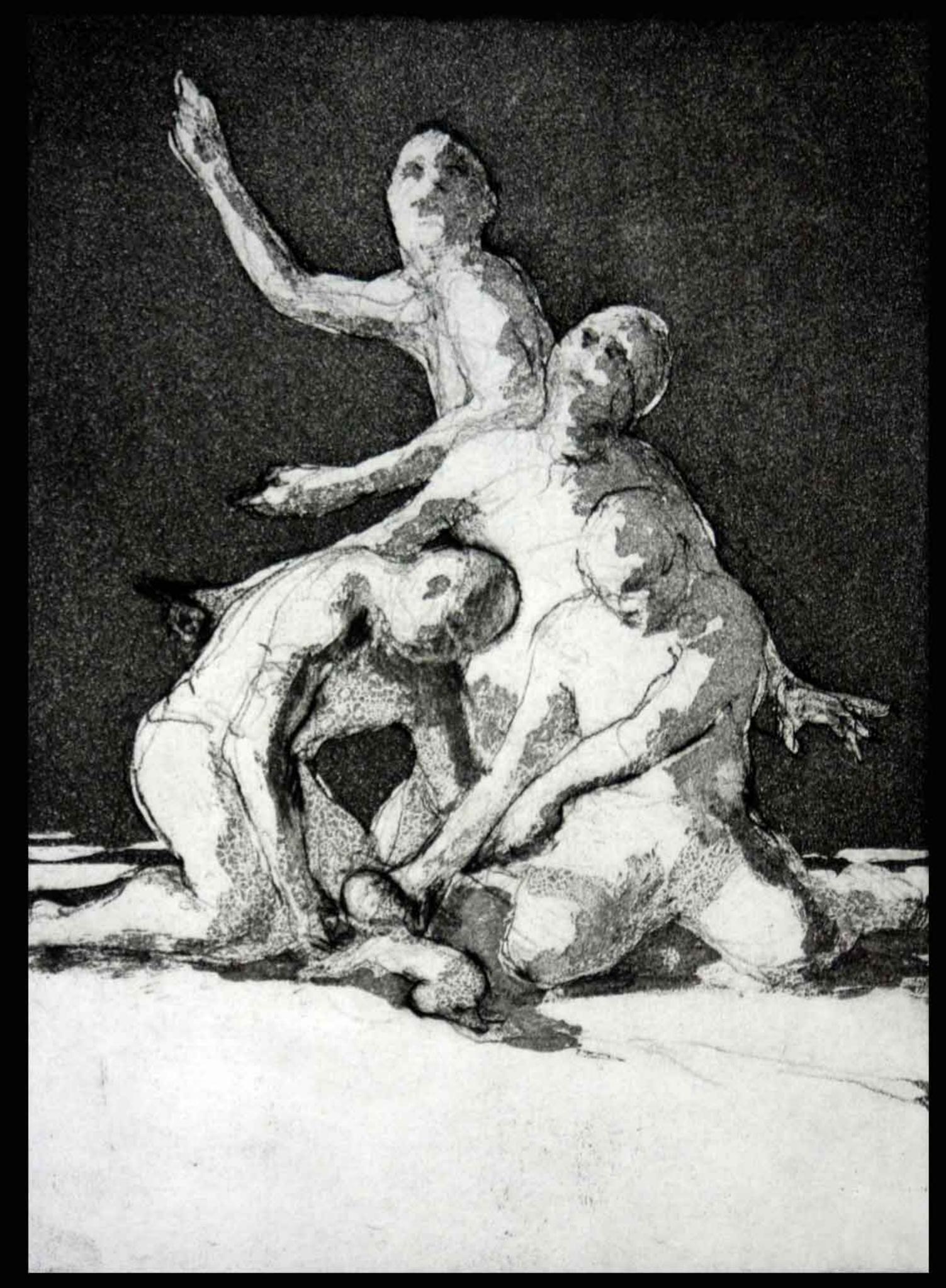
CONNIE FREID, SHE MUST OBEY



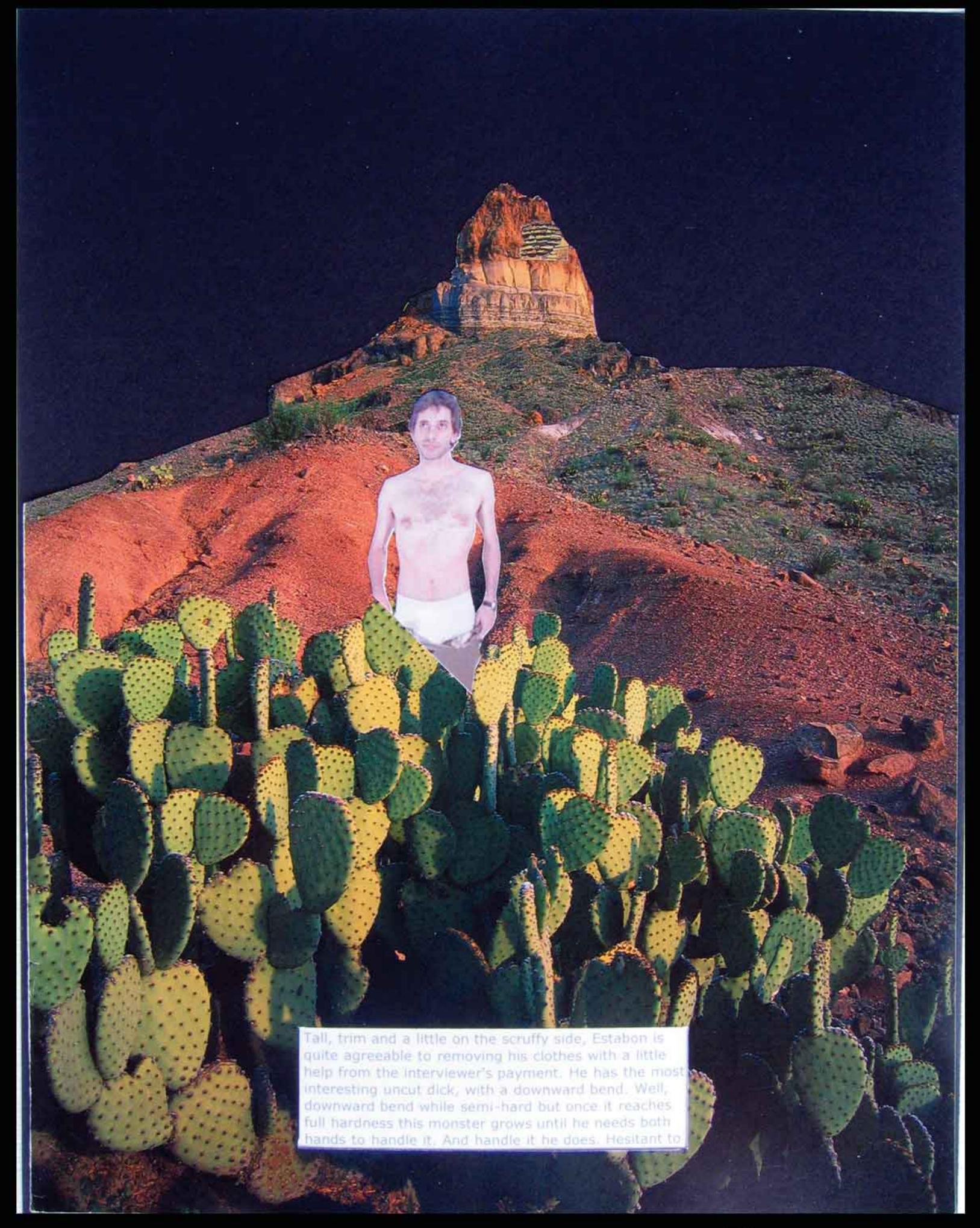
DEBORAH SOUTH MCEVOY, RAW EDGES-DRESSES OF EMOTION, GUILT, CONFUSION & SHAME



DENIS SARGENT, SCHEMATA-RED SHY WARNING



DEREK BUCKNER, THE CHILD

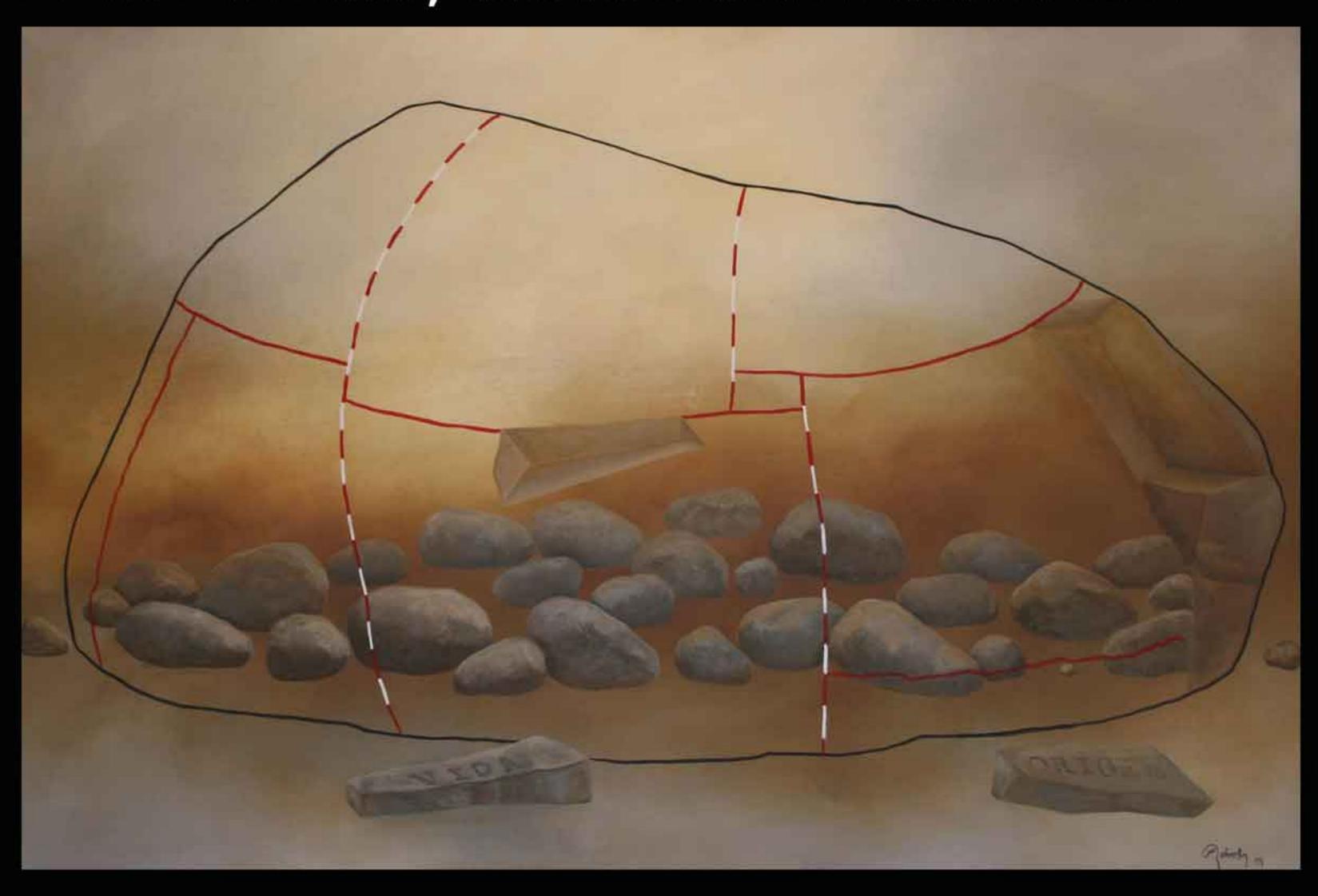


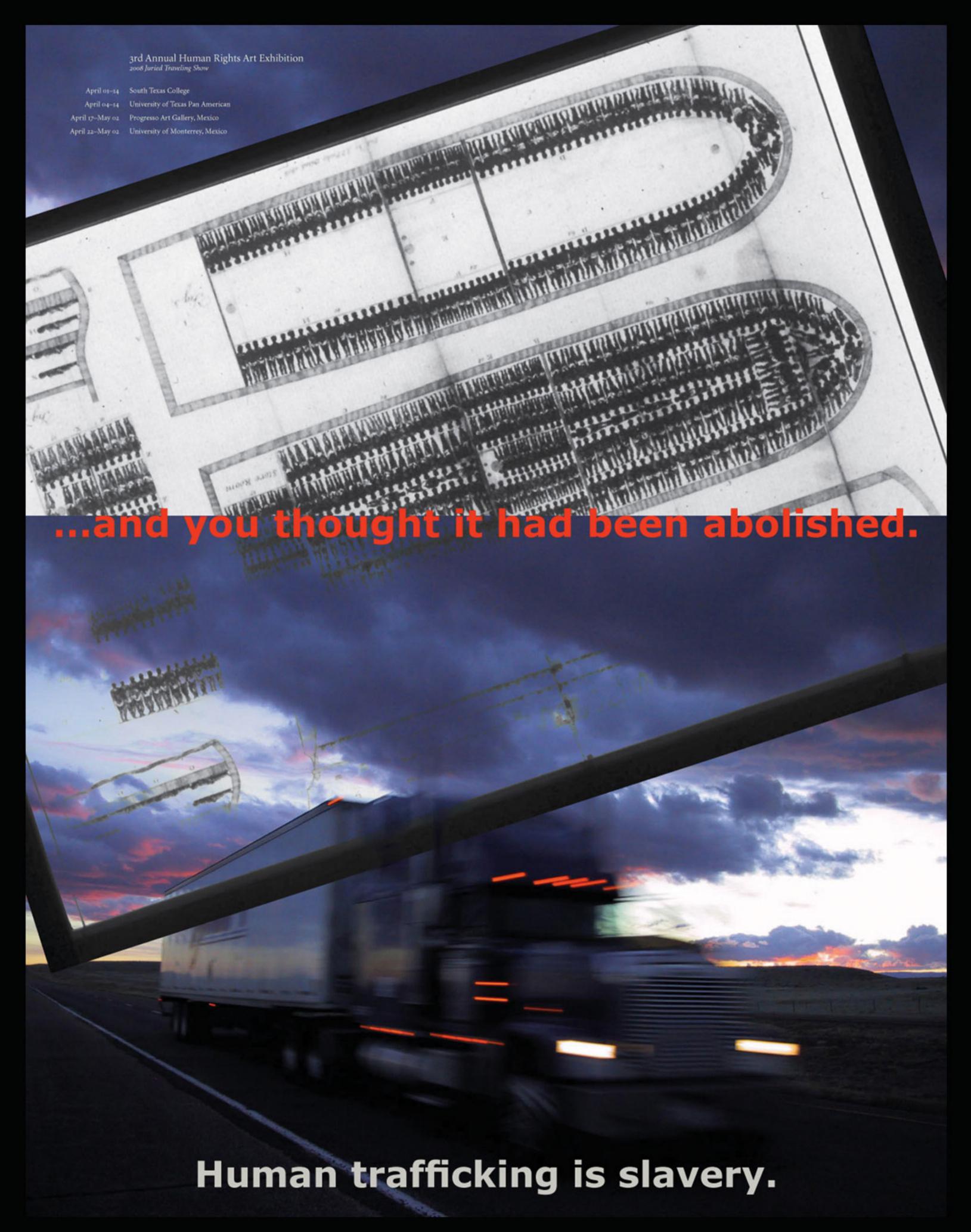
ED CHECK, STRAIGHT FROM MEXICO: VOLUME 69



ELEONORA GARZA, OPRESIÓN

#### ELIZABETH ZABROKY, VALORES HUMANOS FRAGMENTADOS





FRANK TIERNEY, AND YOU THOUGHT IT HD BEEN ABOLISHED



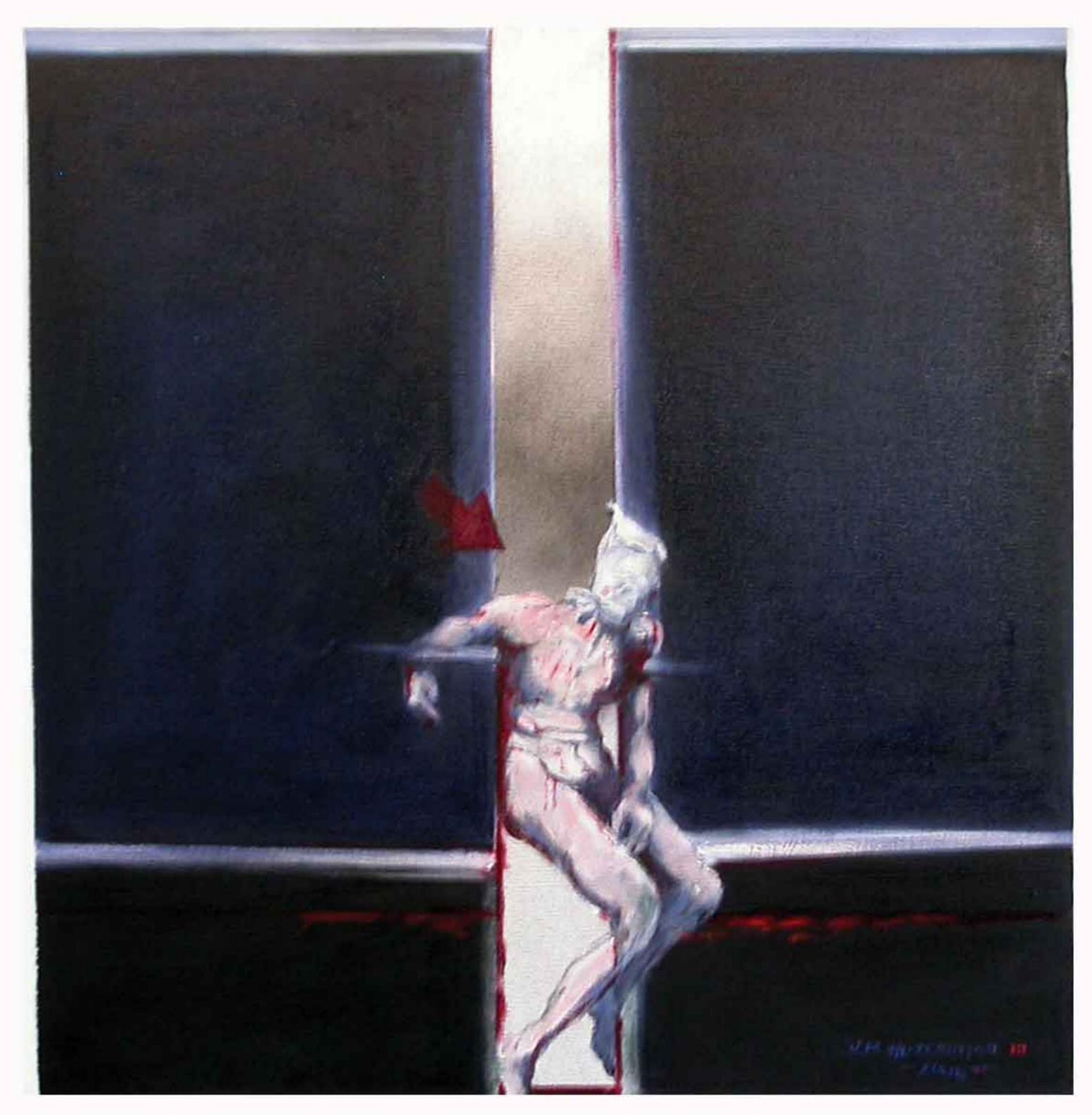
FUTURE AKINS, WHO PAYS



GUADALUPE VICTORICA, MEXICO/US BORDER II

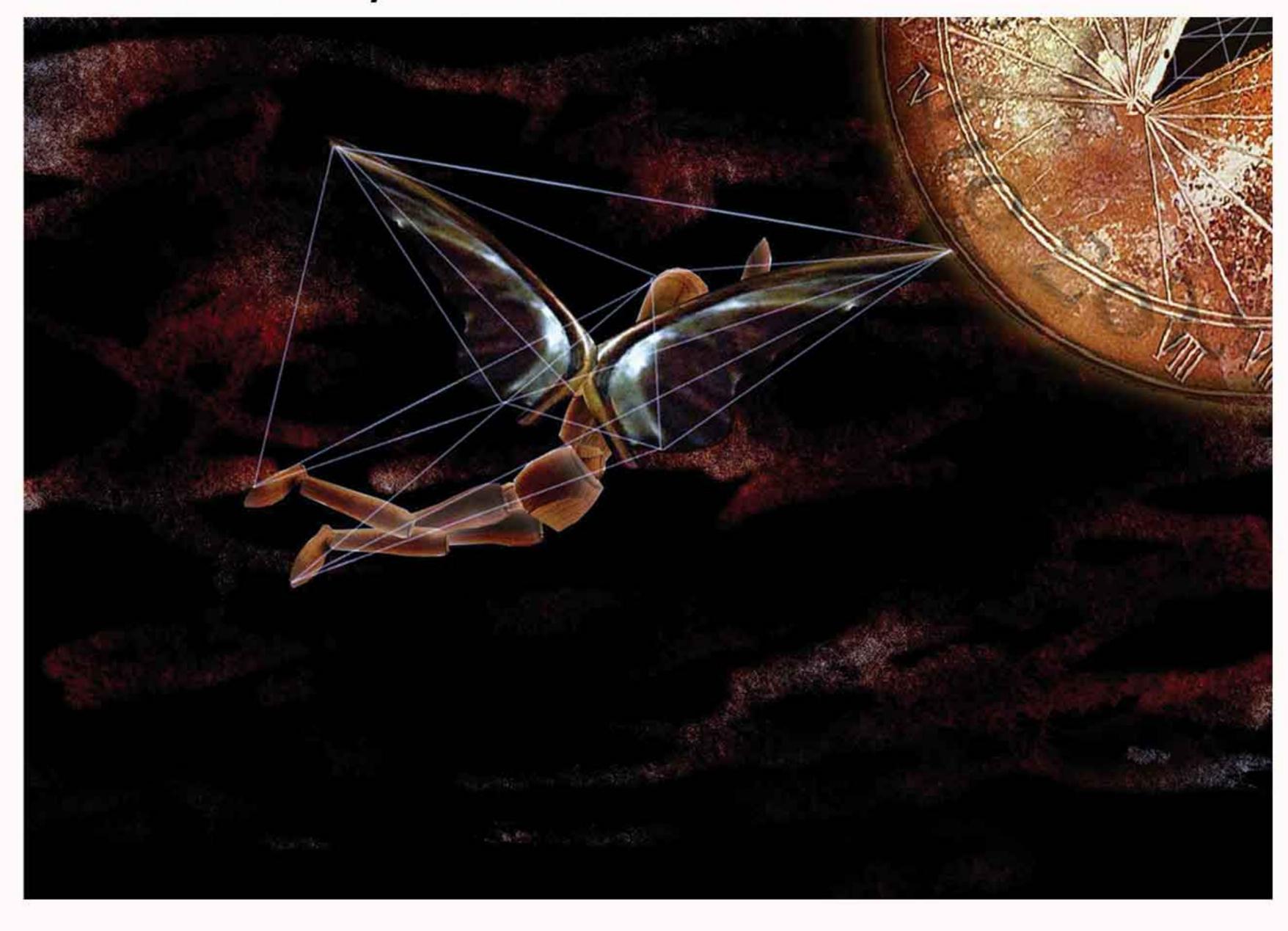


JILL RENEE SMITH, TRAFFICKED



JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, DISASTERS OF WAR-POLITICAL PRISONER

#### KIANOOSH GERAMI, ICARUS IV





LISETTE CHAVEZ, THE BURNING BRIDES OF INDIA



MARGARET PARKER, ABU GHRAIB



MAUREEN MULLEN, BODY OF KNOWLEDGE #22

### MAURICIO SAENZ, CHRONICLE OF A MURDER WITHOUT A TRACE





MONICA AISSA MARTINEZ, LET GO



MOYA DEVINE, PINK



MURRY HANDLER, GENOCIDE

## PAUL VALDEZ, COSTURA

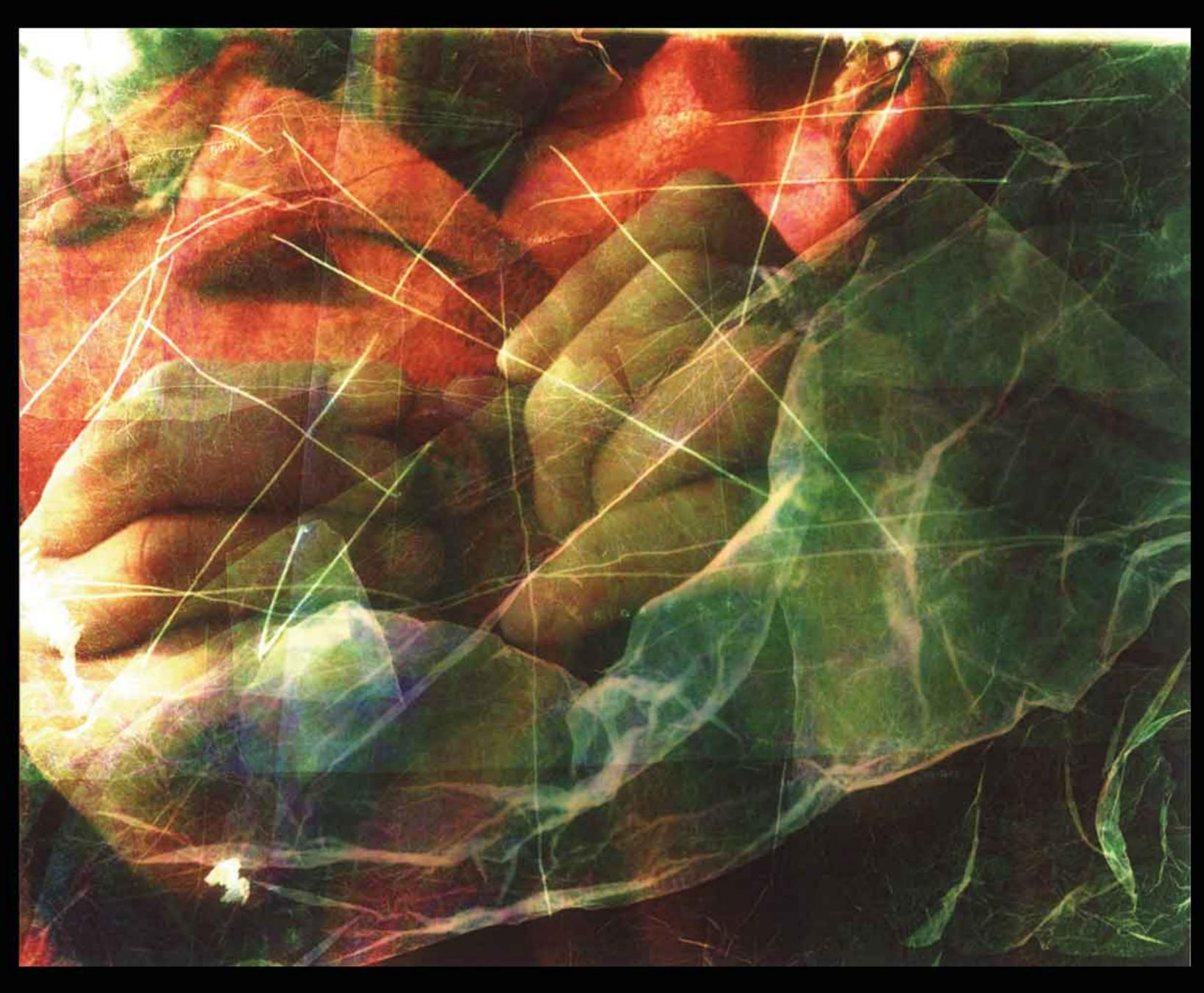




PHYLLIS EVANS, POOH BEAR



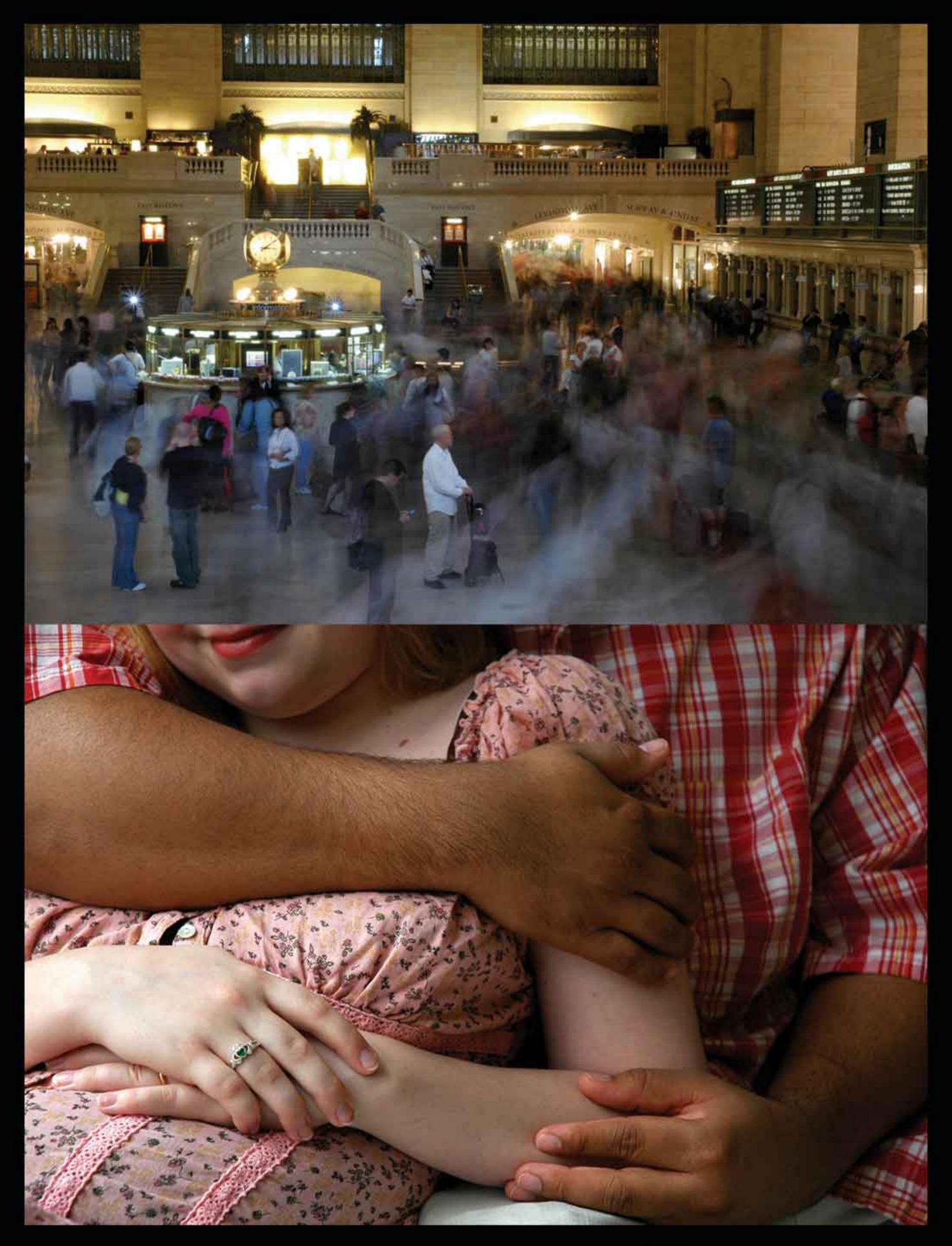
ROBERT GILBERT, SPIRIT OF WAR



SUCHIL COFFMAN GUERRA, THE COAT

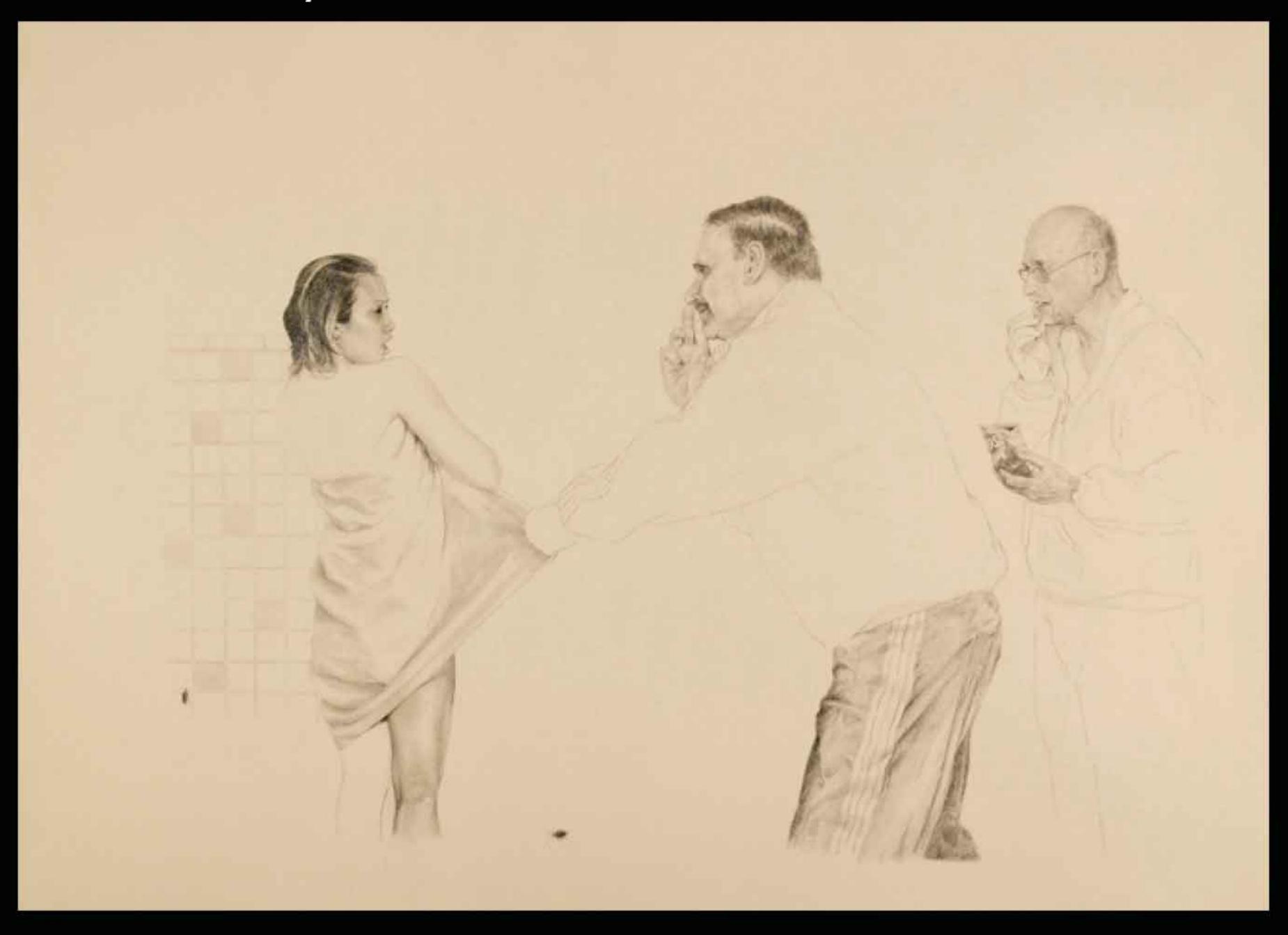
# TERESA TREVINO, MI NIÑA





THOMAS JACKSON, AMERICAN CIPHER 20

#### THOMAS RUGGIO, SUSANNAH AND THE ELDERS



#### SEX TRAFFICKING CONFERENCE AT SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

The Women's Studies Committee of South Texas College in McAllen, Texas is hosting its second annual conference to address the horrifying realities of the human sex-trafficking trade. Almost one million people are trafficked across international borders a year — countless thousands more are kidnapped or sold within their own countries. Worldwide, women and children are the third most valuable black-market commodity, after weapons and drugs. Many of these women and children are forced to work as prostitutes, making sex trafficking a 12-billion dollar-a-year business since girls and women are often sold multiple times, compelled to pay off their debt, while their owners take in tens or even hundreds of thousands of dollars. To control them, pimps and traffickers physically and psychologically brutalize sex workers, threatening to kill family members of the unwilling.

In addition to addressing the supply side of the sex-trafficking industry, this conference will also focus on the demand for persons trafficked into sexual slavery. Although the supply and the demand for trafficked persons are essentially "two sides of the same coin," the social construction of demand requires deeper exploration. We will question what cultural, social, economic, and psychological conditions have led to the tragic explosion of demand for trafficked persons and the marketing of third-world sex tours to first-world nations. We will explore whether legalized prostitution and the growing social acceptance of pornography create tolerance for the sexual exploitation of women. We will also focus on the increasingly globalized and privatized economic conditions that perhaps foster the growing market in human flesh worldwide by displacing millions of people, leaving them vulnerable to the wealthy and the powerful.

Our goals are to raise awareness about the pervasiveness of the sex-trafficking business, to explore the deeper causes of sex trafficking, and ultimately to take part in the larger international conversation about how to stop this insidious crime. We hope to address these questions and to consider forms of resistance to this exploitation of millions that undermines basic respect for human rights and dignity.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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