Rachel Feinstein: Maiden, Mother, Crone

November 1, 2019 - March 22, 2020 The Jewish Museum, New York

Exhibition Checklist

All works by Rachel Feinstein



St. Sebastian, 2012
Polymer resin, steel, wire, and wood
100 x 48 x 24 in.
Private Collection, Greenwich, Connecticut



Model, 2000 Mirror, wood, plaster, and enamel paint 90.75 x 40.5 x 52 in. Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian Gallery



St. Michael, 2012
Polymer resin, steel, wire, and wood
102 x 56 x 30 in.
Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian Gallery



Crucifixion, 2003
Plaster, plywood, fabric and enamel paint
108 x 73 x 25 in.
Hall Collection

A small wooden Crucifixion group from around 1500 was the inspiration for this life-size abstraction. Feinstein has a deep interest in the high European craft of medieval Germany, but her multipart composition was roughly cut with a jigsaw from sheets of plywood. Its hand-hewn materiality reflects the urgency of its time; this was the first piece she made and exhibited after the September 11 terrorist attack, which she witnessed from her downtown New York apartment.



The Walrus Is Paul, 2000 Wood and enamel paint 48 x 72 x 20 in. Private collection, New York



Mr. Time, 2015
Powder-coated aluminum, vinyl, and working clock

Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian Gallery

This sculpture is based on a drawing by the artist's son, Francis Currin, made when he was ten years old. Like many of Feinstein's works, *Mr. Time* leaves traces of its dramatic transformation from a small pencil drawing to a human-scale, three-dimensional metal object.



Fat Friend, 2000

91.5 x 73 x 22 in.

Wood, epoxy resin, polymer clay, plaster, enamel paint, and gold leaf 60 x 48.75 x 32 in. Collection of Mark Fletcher and Tobias Meyer



Flower Girl, 2010–11
Polyester resin and pigment
48 x 37 x 37 in.
Lever House Art Collection, New York



Girl and Reindeer, 2010-11 Polymer resin and fiberglass over foam and wire $58 \times 34 \times 36$ in.

Lever House Art Collection, New York



Northhamptonshire, 2012
Enamel paint on mirror
46 x 65 in.
Collection of Beth Rudin DeWoody



Goldstein, 2019
Painted wood
Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian Gallery



Adam and Eve, 2007 Stained wood 83.5 x 45.3 x 41.3 in. Collection of Mima and César Reyes, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Feinstein considers how archetypes such as Eve or the Virgin Mary have historically been represented: here, she entwines Eve's body with Adam's, positioning her as his equal partner. The tree's canopy frames her head and the tendrils of her hair continue the lines of the leaves, connecting her to nature. Traditionally, male artists contributed statuary and other sacred art to places of worship, reinforcing the gender biases that characterize religious narratives.



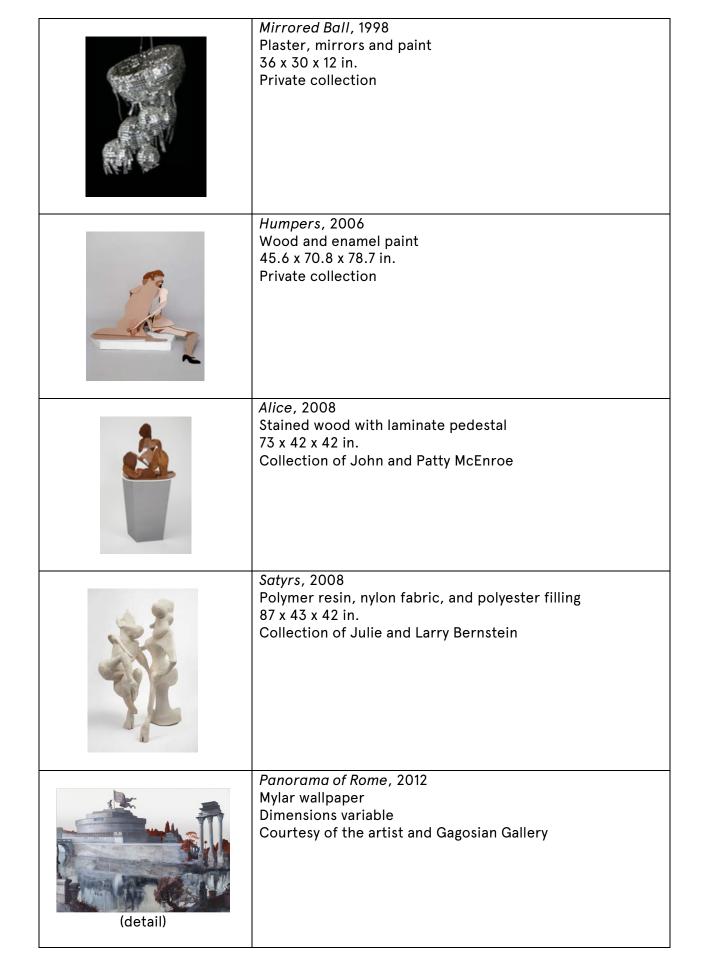
Mother and Children, 2007 Stained wood 73.2 x 33.4 x 24.4 in. Collection of Mario Testino



Punch and Family, 2009
Polymer resin, wood, and wire
79 x 39 x 58 in.
Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian Gallery









The Shack, 2001
Wood, cedar shingles, wire, polymer resin, nylon fabric, mirror, gold leaf, and enamel paint 125 x 91 x 74 in.
Frank Cohen Collection



The Orphan, 2009
Wood, polymer resin, and enamel paint
79 x 37 x 37.5 in.
Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian Gallery



Corinne, 2018
Majolica
51.1875 x 37.375 x 49.1875 in.
Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian Gallery

Feinstein collaborated with artisans at the Nymphenburg Porcelain Manufactory to create *Corinne*. The 260-year-old workshop is on the grounds of the Baroque palace of Nymphenburg in Munich. It was founded to produce luxury decorations and tableware for its royal patrons, as a showcase for their artistic sophistication and cultural superiority.

The work's abstract form is derived from the elaborate, undulating bases of Franz Anton Bustelli's porcelain Commedia dell'Arte figurines, made around 1760. Feinstein plays with the idea that form must follow function by omitting the figures and enlarging their eccentric supports to life size.



Franz Anton Bustelli Corinne, c. 1760 Porcelain, Nymphenburg Porcelain Manufactory Bayerisches Nationalmuseum, Munich



Puritan's Delight, 2008 Stained wood and electric candle 66.5 x 101 x 91 in.

Courtesy of the artist and Gagosian Gallery



Bleeding Shepherdess, 2014 Polymer resin and pigment 46 x 21 x 24 in. Collection of Mima and César Reyes, San Juan, Puerto Rico



Butterfly, 2018 Polyester resin and pigment over foam with wooden base 78.5 x 37 x 32.5 in. Collection of Stefan Edlis and Gael Neeson



Icicles, 2018 Polyester resin and pigment over foam with wooden base 57 x 18.5 x 20 in. Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Gift of Allison and Larry Berg

This figure's pointedly horrific appearance is based on a look called "Snow Angel" from the 2015 Victoria's Secret lingerie show. The annual, globally televised event purports to celebrate female empowerment, but its premise—that a gorgeous woman is young, impossibly slim, and voluptuously proportioned, tanned and tautly toned amounts to an unattainable fairy tale. The object's lumpen body gives the impression of oozing, rotting flesh. Feinstein, with her sardonic grotesquery, presents the messy, fleshy realities of being female.