

THE PLEASANT LAND



Jill Poyourow

The Natural Progression of Things

October 4 - November 4, 2011

Reception, Friday, October 14
from 5 - 7
Gallery Talk at 6

Apex Gallery
SDSM&T
CB 201
501 E. St. Joseph St.
Rapid City, SD 57701

605.395.1688
<http://apexgallery.sdsmt.edu>
Hours: M- Sat. 10 - 5
Sun. 1 - 5
Closed long weekends





APEX GALLERY

[Coming Up](#)[Current Exhibit](#)[Past Exhibits](#)[Background](#)[Director](#)[Guestbook](#)

The Natural Progression of Things

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Artist's Reception: Oct 14, 5-7 pm.

Gallery Talk at 6 pm



Water to Land, 2011, oil on linen, 85 x 196 inches

Director's Statement

Jill Poyourow's most recent work is in the genre of "history" painting. This style of painting, in the traditional sense usually depicts a defining moment in a narrative. However, Poyourow's work holds our attention by its dynamic and eclectic references to multiple sources.

The artist mines family history, art history, biology, and evolution. These sources are, in her own words: "refracted through an imagination populated with visions of fractal-like organisms, creatures and life forms."

Her artwork takes us on an expansive romp through history and around the world to disparate cultures all connected on a molecular level through our common humanity and the human need for art and beauty.

Artist's Statement

"In my latest work, The Natural Progression of Things, the words 'historical' and 'cosmological' go hand in hand, bringing together my long-standing practices of painting and personal narrative. Working to create a new hybrid form of history painting while taking an allegorical view into the cosmological and biological processes essential to life, these new works are informed by ideas about the environment and evolution currently making their way to the forefront of global consciousness via popular culture.

As I painted these works, a couple of global environmental catastrophes occurred; simultaneously, my own life changed dramatically. In my work I explore how all our cognitive experiences influence and determine how life is evolving on this planet, not only as



scientific phenomena of a very distant past, but also as a current process that is happening with our every thought and breath. My fascination with the 3.5 billion year history of the human body is expressed as I invent these plankton-cum-fish-cum-man biomorphic and geometric marks, symbolizing how we all are connected viscerally and how technology influences the natural world inside and outside each of us. By studying our origins, we become more human."

Jill Poyourow

This exhibition is dedicated to the memory of Erlene Mae Flockoi McKay.

Deborah Mitchell, Director
Apex Gallery

Gallery Hours: M-Sat. 10 - 5, Sun. 1 - 5

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November, 2011, Apex Gallery, South Dakota School of Mines, Rapid City, SD

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I was happy to be invited to exhibit my new series “The Natural Progression of Things” at the Apex Gallery on the School of Mines campus in Rapid City, SD.

The venue seemed very appropriate – the natural history museum there houses a large collection of fossils and specimens pertaining to the evolution of life on this planet. The area surrounding Rapid City (the black hills of South Dakota) is home to a wealth of natural phenomena.

