

New Eyes for *Querky Lines*

By Kerry Methner / CASA

RETURNING HOME MAY BE QUIRKY... little mementos of the past unexpectedly floating back into consciousness. But sometimes the return just flows. That's what Doug Poyourow experienced when he returned to creating fine art after several decades leave of absence.

"I decided to come back five years ago. I had a yearning, I couldn't figure it out until I considered going back to art," he explained. "It has been a very natural transition mentally, to let it come back and decide how to do that. People don't realize I have an MFA in printmaking. My emphasis now is almost entirely in drawing and painting."

Poyourow's recent work is now on display at Casa Magazine. The exhibit consists of two recent series. The first is an unusual grouping of



Douglas Poyourow

ten large iPadographs (a term Poyourow coined), which were drawn and painted from life on an iPad. The second series offers 15 large charcoal renderings of the human figure and a landscape.

"It's like a return to home," shared

Poyourow. "My last show was 42 years ago... since then I've done a number of things in the arts... I took a general detour when I was 29 years old, mostly for family and financial reasons. That's when I went into Real Estate and banking."

Artists, according to Poyourow, "have a role of helping people understand our culture through our art... I enjoy David Hockney. I like the fact that he has chosen to embrace electronic media late in life. I can relate to that."

A large focus of Poyourow's recent work revolves around his newly discovered tool - the iPad. "When Apple came out with their iPads, I saw the potential immediately and got one," he shared. By then he had been tuning up his drawing for about two years. "I feel like I'm on the cutting edge, perhaps only briefly. Embracing technology for its aesthetic potential is exciting and a reflection of our culture."

Drawing with tablet computers was almost predicted by some pop artists according to Poyourow. "All you have to do is take a drawing done on an iPad and you start to see how the elements of the drawing are apt to burst apart through pixilation, or color separations... but



Red Face, iPadograph by Douglas Poyourow

that is part of the excitement of the medium. It's something that can be embraced rather than worried about."

Born in New York City in 1948, Poyourow lived in the City until 1965 when he began his formal studio training.

During this culturally turbulent time in American art he received classical training in drawing, but was fortunate to participate in many avant garde events such as the "art happenings" of the 60s. After concluding his undergraduate training he was awarded a bachelor's degree in art with honors through the New York State University system, during which he emphasized photography and mixed media as well as drawing and painting.

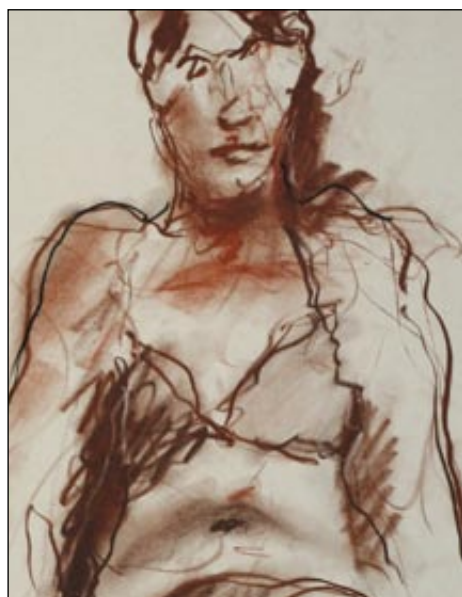
In 1971, after several years during which he taught young artists skills in photography and illustration he was granted a graduate assistantship to study and teach in New Mexico State University, graduating with a Masters degree *Cum Laude* in printmaking. During that time he exhibited his works in various regional juried shows and galleries.

In 1972 he was once again given a teaching assistantship, this time at Northern Illinois' Masters of Fine Arts program. He taught photography to art students and evolved techniques in photo-serigraphy. He continued to show his work in a number of regional juried shows and received several awards.

At the age of 24 he was given his first one-man show in the NIU main galleries.

But his straight line into art jogged in 1973 when his life took a different turn, accepting a position heading the corporate advertising production offices at Infrared Industries in Carpinteria. For the next four years he produced annual reports, product photography, and general illustration. Ultimately Poyourow decided to leave all commercial artistic pursuits in favor of a new career. For the next 32 years he dropped all fine art and became a banking and mortgage professional and financial columnist in Santa Barbara. But then, his life line took another turn, this time a re-turn.

"When I'm drawing I always feel an emotional attachment to whatever it is that I'm rendering. Having an emotional attachment is a *de facto* form of sensuality. There's a strong sensual vein that I tap into," he shared. And that is what Poyourow plans to be up to during this next jaunt along a quirky line.



Seated Bather, conte on paper by Douglas Poyourow

CASA is located at 23 E. Canon Perdido St. and is open M-F 9-5pm. Learn more about the artist at poyourow.fineartstudioonline.com.