



Art Direction | Exploring the Limits of Spontaneous Creation at Directions Miami

Directions Miami has taken a new direction in presenting its showroom of modern furniture and accessories. Since 2006, Directions Miami has captured the eye of patrons by incorporating live installations within the showroom's furnishings.

Working exclusively with French Canadian artists Michel Marchand and Marie Jose Decarie, owner George Lopez has captured the attention of the curious, as well as art aficionados.

A sculptor by trade, Marchand is a multidisciplinary artist. He works with live models and has spent the past 20 years focusing his work in medium- and large-scale charcoal drawings. The human body is always his starting point, as he has been fascinated by the manifold reveries on the body put forward in contemporary dance.

The first lines in the drawing are always sparked off by the dancer who models for him – by the way he speaks or moves or by a strain or tension furtively revealed. Drawn in actual scale, or larger than life, the naked body of the dancer moves and shifts, divides in two or three, becomes entangled with itself, disappears to reappear in a different form or light. These unusual representations of the body are obviously not erotic, their interest lies elsewhere.

In his recent drawings, Marchand moves closer to the language of painting, though his main focus is always to catch sight of the basic truth of the body moving before him.

Artist Mari José Décarie developed a passion for photography at the age of 16. She was instantly captivated by the medium's accessibility, versatility and presence. Starting with a Minolta SRT 101, Décarie has graduated from 35mm, to large-format and pinhole photography, and continues exploring passionately the limits of spontaneous creation.

Her *Manitou* series is a surreal narrative exploring the connection between the body and nature and life. It is a visual study of the life cycle represented by the body, cradled within mysterious depths and born to the air. Décarie presents these moments with candor and vitality. The finished image is rendered intentionally in a framing process representing the extreme attention to detail.

Come and experience Marchand and Décarie in another live installation scheduled for July 12 at Directions Miami.

Directions Miami is located at 50 NE 40th St. For more information call 305.571.5595