

BODY PERFECT

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GALLERY



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE : 04.08.2005
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Chicago, Illinois; The "Body Perfect" lost and found at Walsh Gallery

"Body Perfect" is a group show that explores how artists use the body as a vehicle for inspiration. The show looks at how artists use the body as a symbol for everything from spiritual enlightenment to extreme estrangement from society. **Many of the artists will be present at the opening reception.**

Ravinder Reddy's monumental-scaled heads and a life-size figure piece will be on display in the main gallery. His works are made of polyester resin fiberglass and goldleaf. Inspired by both Egyptian and African art, Mr. Reddy has always been interested in pursuing and expressing that which remains enduring and timeless in art. His sculptures reflect the inner strength and power of women. He defies not the timeless myth of beauty, but contemporary goddesses who walk the streets of India. In women whose unique fortitude creates the body perfect, Mr. Reddy finds his muse. **Mr. Reddy lives in India and will be coming for the opening reception.**

Ravinder Reddy's work has been included in important exhibitions in Asia, Europe and Australia. In 1996 he was in the influential "Traditions/Tensions" exhibition at the Asia Society in New York. In 2001 the Andy Warhol Museum (Pittsburgh) held a solo exhibition of his work. His work has been collected by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, The Arthur M. Sackler Gallery and Freer Gallery of Art at the Smithsonian Institute, the Peabody Essex Museum, and the Queensland Art Gallery (Brisbane). His work is currently included in the exhibition "About Beauty" at the House of World Cultures (Berlin).

In the project rooms, there will be two short films by **Sonia Khurana** entitled "Bird" and "Closet". In her film "Bird", the artist, a heavy-set, curvaceous nude woman, tries to make bird-like gestures. However the film is shot with an often unstable handheld camera, so what should appear as graceful flappings often takes on a tragic/comic feeling. As art historian Leon Wainwright says, "bird is about being a body. It is about an encounter with failed flight. It is an investigation of two kinds of limitations: the

RAVINDER REDDY
SONIA KHURANA
DAVID SERVOSS
INDIRA FREITAS-JOHNSON
VON KOMMANIVANH

APRIL 29 - MAY 28, 2005
OPENING RECEPTION: APRIL 29, 5-9pm

body confronting its own flesh and the forces of gravity, and a discrete questioning of accounts of the body which overlook sexual difference." Ms. Khurana's sequel, "Closet" is a poignant look at a woman who goes through the motions of trying to figure out what to wear and changing her mind. It quickly enters into a realm of neurosis and obsession through a series of finely edited cuts and motion shifts.

Sonia Khurana currently lives in New Delhi. She received her MA. in 1999 from the Royal College of Art (London). Ms. Khurana has done residencies at both the Ecole des Beaux Arts (Paris) and the Rijksakademie VanBeeldende Kunsten (Amsterdam). Her work has shown in many museums including the House of World Cultures (Berlin), the Fukuoka Museum of Asian Art (Japan), the National Gallery of Modern Art (India), and the Culturgest Museum (Portugal). Her films have been seen in film festivals around the world and her work was included this year in the Busan Biennale (South Korea). Ms. Khurana's work is currently at the Queens Museum of Art (New York) in "Edge of Desire."

Indira Freitas-Johnson has created a sculpture of a large-scale foot. Here is a "perfect" foot representing the path towards many things, whether it is the enlightenment obtained by the Buddha or the path of truth (Satyagraha) in Hinduism. Gandhi popularized this concept when he used to say "I'm following the path of Satyagraha." The word "Satyagraha" has been carved into the large-scale foot sculpture. As Ms. Freitas-Johnson says, "The foot represents our being rooted to the earth. It is a symbol for the path we are each following." **Ms. Freitas-Johnson lives in Chicago and will be present at the opening reception.** She has recently exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Art (Chicago), New Museum of Art (New York), the Museum of Contemporary Art (New Orleans), and the Prince of Whales Museum (Bombay). She is currently in the exhibition "Fatal Love" at the Queens Museum (New York).

(cont. on reverse)