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THE WORD ON ART

Gallery Pushing the Boundaries of Art, Sexuality

and Fashion

July 29, 2024 [thewordsd.news](#)

By Patric Stillman

In August, The Studio Door in San Diego is set to host an extraordinary series of events that push the boundaries of artistic expression and celebrate the full spectrum of human experience.

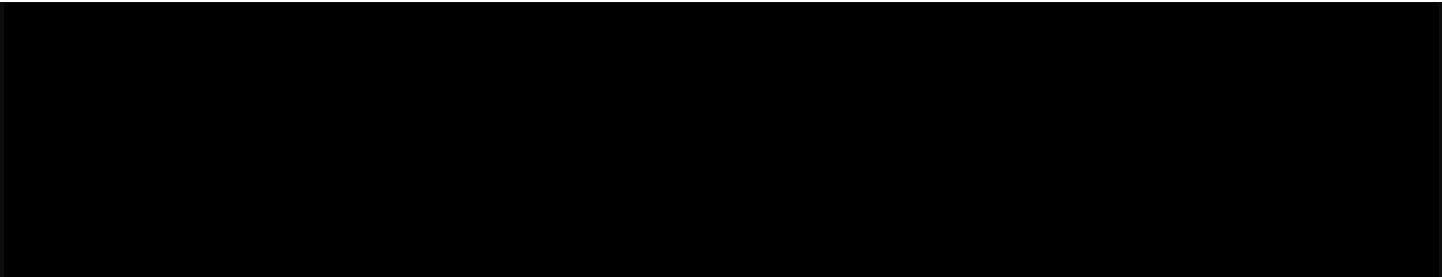
Kicking off the provocative Liberated Forms exhibition from August 8 to 31, 2024 is the highly anticipated SKINZ Fashion Show on August 8, 2024. These events promise to be a bold celebration of diversity, desire, and identity. With daring leather fashion on the runway and body-positive art on the gallery walls, The Studio Door invites you to join in a month of creativity, dialogue, and unbridled passion.

Liberated Forms

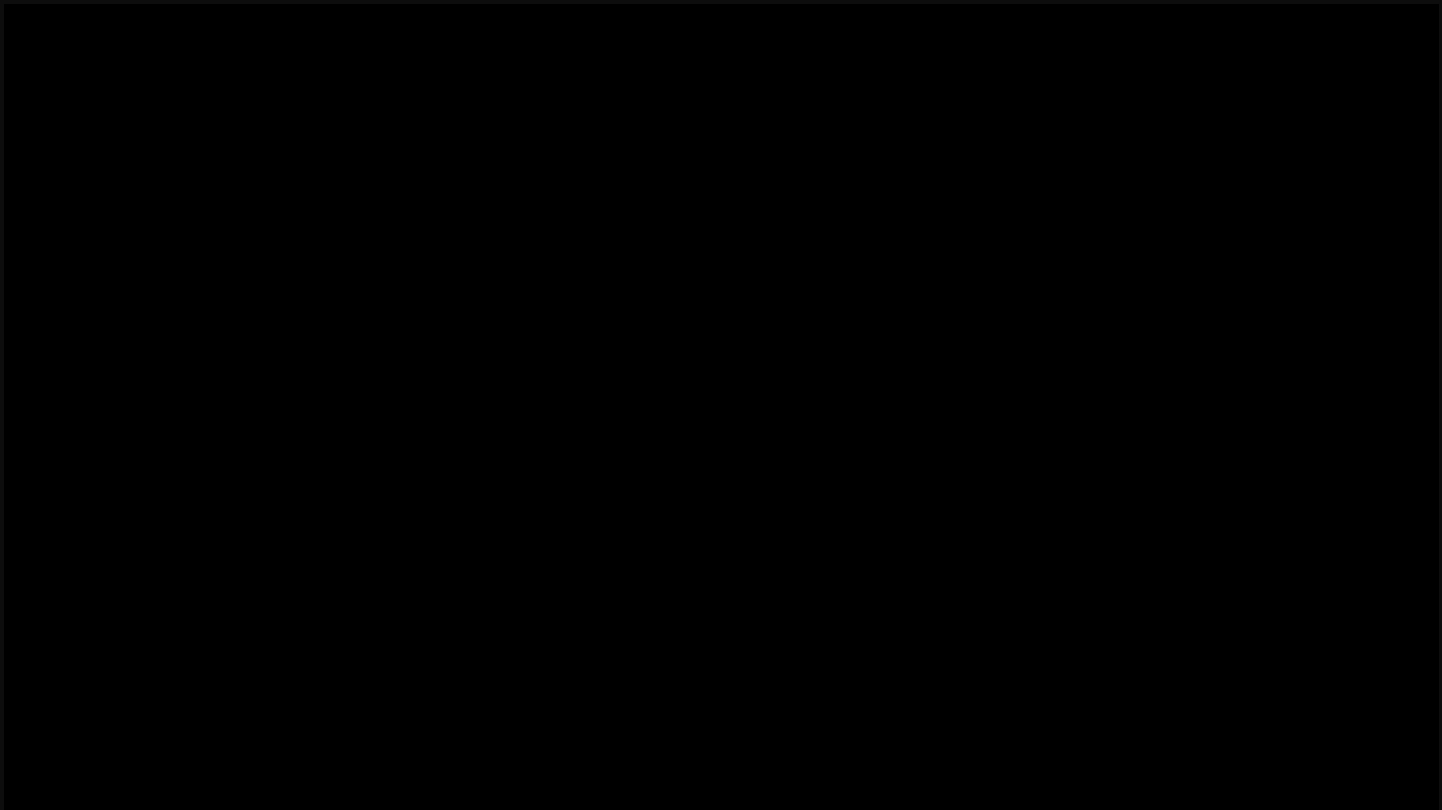
Liberated Forms is The Studio Door's most provocative and boundary pushing exhibition in its 10-year history. This national exhibition of visual arts reveals a celebration of diversity and desire, featuring 100 artworks from 39 artists across 13 US states. With a focus on body and sex-positive art, Liberated Forms seeks to provide a safe space for dialogue and discussion surrounding contemporary experiences of sex and sexuality.

"As the gallerist of The Studio Door, I firmly believe in the power of art to provoke thought, evoke emotion, and challenge societal norms. Exhibiting erotic art is not merely about showcasing sensuality; it's a celebration of artistic freedom and a profound exploration of the human condition," said Patric Stillman, the visionary behind the gallery. "By embracing the full spectrum of human experience, we honor the courageous voices of artists and reaffirm our commitment to the principles of free expression and creative exploration."

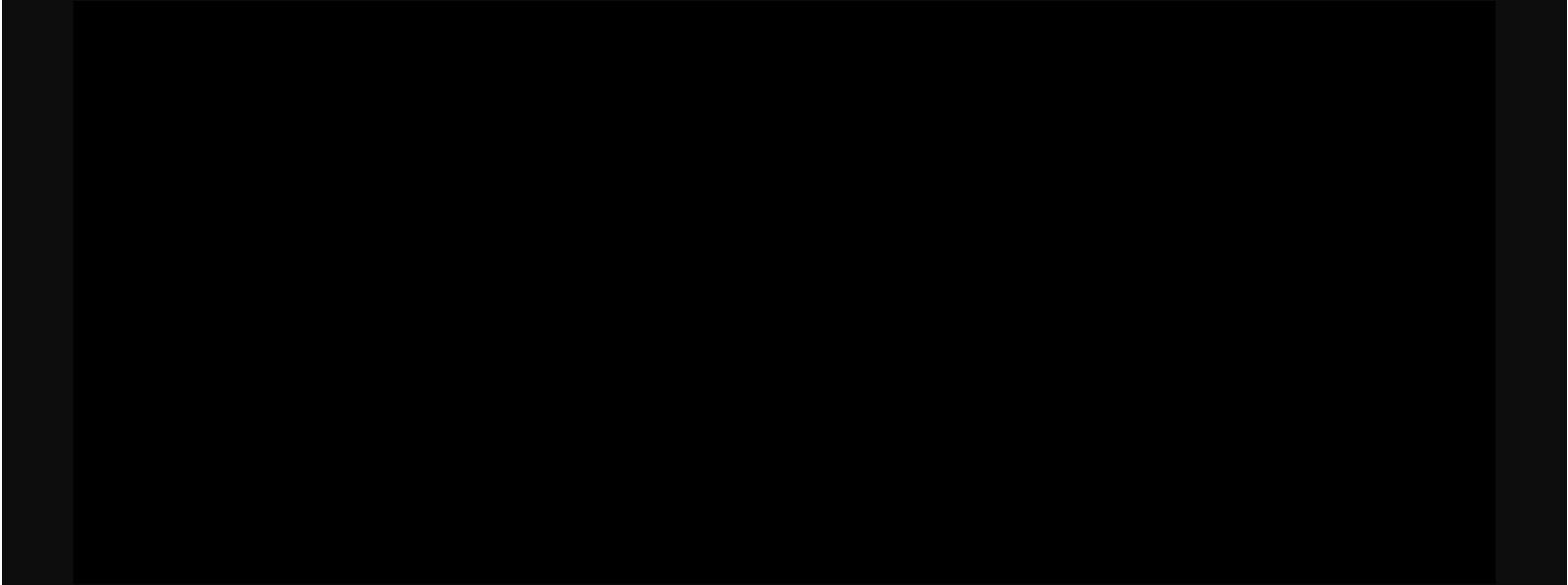
Along with a selection of national works, five local artists are being featured in the exhibit, including Richard ChauDavis, Dennis Covey, Debbie Korbel, Danne Sadler and Danny Warhole.



Debbie Korbel's unconventional sculptures often spark conversation. "I use a lot of unusual materials in my work—things that I find: rubber, wood, wire, metal, plastic toys, all kinds of things. My art is generally pretty accessible conceptually, with a lot of exaggeration and hyperbole. It's like commentary but coming in sideways on things," she shared. Korbel's adult-themed series, *Bad Plastic*, is expected to be a highlight of the exhibition, bringing a touch of humor and a provocative edge to the showcase.



Richard Chau Davis is known for his daring explorations of sexuality through photography and mixed media. "My current artwork is sexual. I have a huge repository of photos from my 'Black Room' series. I use them to create underprints as I returned to the form of painting," he explained. ChauDavis's work challenges viewers to confront their own perceptions and prejudices, making his contributions to *Liberated Forms* both impactful and unforgettable.



Danny Warhole, whose artworks can be found across the West Coast, brings a unique perspective to the exhibit. “A lot of what I do is very queer-centric, and it’s very focused on that experience and how I feel about it and expressing that out into the world. I love hearing what people think of my work, whether it’s good or bad. It’s always interesting to see how people react to what I do because it’s so personal to me,” Warhole said. His works promise to add depth and diversity to the exhibition, highlighting the intersection of art and identity.

The exhibition, which includes a mature content warning and a strict code of conduct, is open exclusively to guests 18 years and older with valid proof of ID. In a bold move to maintain the privacy and integrity of the artwork, photography will be strictly prohibited in the gallery during the exhibit. The public reception on Saturday, August 10, in the afternoon from 2 to 5 PM, will offer a unique opportunity for attendees to meet the artists and engage in meaningful conversations about their work. Reception is free to the public.



Earl Gray, Ford, Keonte, Kevin, Hector and Julian. Model Photos by @SmithBearMedia

SKINZ Fashion Show

The Liberated Forms exhibition will kick off with a bang on Thursday, August 8, with the highly anticipated SKINZ Fashion Show. Produced by Earl Gray, Mr. San Diego Leather 2024, this leather fashion show promises to set the stage on fire with its daring designs and captivating performances. The event will feature sultry models strutting down the runway in provocative and seductive leather creations.

“Our Emcee Nadya Simone will be on hand to guide you through the evening, ensuring an unforgettable experience for all attendees,” said Gray. “Experience the ultimate fusion of leather fashion and fantasy, as our talented designers from Moose Leather and DetoXXX Leather push the boundaries of leather craftsmanship and style.”

“Wearing leather holds different meanings for different people. It serves as a form of personal expression and helps individuals live authentically. Be true to yourself!” Master Crafter Steve Wendt of Moose Leather said. Wendt’s custom leather goods are known for their quality and attention to detail, making his contributions to the show highly anticipated.

Another highlight of the evening will be the collection from DetoXXX Leather, led by Master Crafter Alpha Rob. Known for his intricate designs and meticulous craftsmanship, Rob’s work is sure to leave a lasting impression. “This has been a personal goal of mine to showcase a complete collection on a runway, and I’m really excited to show the gear at The Studio Door. Really, really excited. The pinnacle of my work so far was in 2022 when I had a complete outfit walked at IML with Jody Mitchell, Mr. San Diego Leather 2019. To have my gear walking on that stage among the national titleholders was everything,” Rob reflected. His latest collection, featuring Roman post-apocalyptic armor fashion, promises to be a showstopper.

Special appearances are planned by San Diego Bear 202 David Cordova, Princess Royale Madam Kiki and Chip Young.

Earl Gray shared his enthusiasm: “SKINZ is not just a fashion show; it’s a celebration of identity and expression through leather. This event is about bringing our community together, supporting one another, and showcasing the incredible artistry of our designers. I’m thrilled to be a part of this unique experience.”

Mr. San Diego Leather 2024 Presents

Skinz

LEATHER FASHION SHOW

THE STUDIO
DOOR

3867 Fourth Ave
San Diego, CA 92103

100 % of
proceeds benefit:



THURSDAY
AUGUST 8
6PM - 9PM

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM - SUGGESTED \$10 DONATION
NO ONE TURNED AWAY - AGES 18+ - SHOW STARTS 7PM

Doors open at 6 PM, with the show starting at 7 PM. A suggested donation of \$10 is encouraged, with all proceeds benefiting TransFamily Support Services to support their Gender Junk program. Seating is first come, first serve, so attendees are encouraged to arrive early to secure a good spot.

For those looking to support TransFamily Support Services further, additional information on their programs and donation opportunities can be found on their website at transfamilysos.org. Every dollar raised goes towards supporting transgender and gender non-conforming youth, ensuring they have access to the resources and support they need to thrive.

Important Dates

The Studio Door, 3867 4th Avenue in Hillcrest:

- Liberated Forms Exhibition: August 8 – 31, 2024

- SKINZ Fashion Show: August 8, 2024, Doors open at 6 PM, Show starts at 7 PM.
- Artist Reception: August 10, 2024, 2 – 5 PM

The Brass Rail Gears up to Celebrate 90 Years: An Interview with owner
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About



Drawing from a rich pool of creative and literary talent, THE WORD defines and articulates the contribution of San Diego's LGBTQ+ Community. THE WORD inspires readers to recognize and celebrate our community's accomplishments.

Readers can expect a uniquely diverse perspective on the community, entertainment, the arts, current events, politics and travel. In print, online, and across social, that's THE WORD.

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