

SILVIA LEVENSON

Micaëla Gallery
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SILVIA LEVENSON bio



SILVIA LEVENSON
was born a Buenos Aires in 1957. Lives in Italy since 1981

SILVIA LEVENSON statement



In my work aesthetic is not separated from the meaning that I try to convey. The content and the formal aspect represent the integrity of my own work and I believe glass is functional to this idea.

The majority of my pieces are connected with “housing”.

“House” as the universe and amplifier of daily life and anguish, at once a cocoon as well as a battlefield, a place of love, hate and tension.

Recently, the tendency is “to stay at home”, therefore, people are “isolating” in their protected and muffled world, frightened to talk out loud about their private life.

Once life was more focused in the social interchange, but now individuals are investing all their energy in pursuing their own “happiness”.

The American Constitution, model of western civilization, says that the “pursuit of happiness” is an inalienable human right. Sometimes attaining this right becomes a form of heroism in a society almost allergic to pain, illness, suffering and depression.

Happiness has become such an obsession that in order to avoid any failure, society itself is proposing something like “do-it yourself”. From books, television, magazines and internet, we receive all kind of instruction to get fast and easy happiness. Everything teaches us how to reach our balance, happiness, eternal youth, beauty, harmony, sexuality and success through medications, yoga, surgery, new age, on line meditation, etc... All regular activities (gardening, traveling, cooking, farming and breeding animals) are transformed into self-improvement therapies.

In this project I am working on the “cosmetics of happiness”.

My work tends to show the impossibility of relaxing inside our ‘cocoons’ if the outside world is exploding. It shows furthermore the impossibility of being always on top of social expectations. In my actual work I am not concerned with morality. I’d like to explore the obsession of being forever happy and my perspective originates from my own discomfort and from my own sense of unfitness.

As an artist I don’t have answers to this “disease”. Of course, I am not totally against “self-improvement help”, but what is shocking to me is the superficiality of the approach: “I don’t like my nose, I change it; I am unhappy, I take a pill; my child is hyper, I will give him Ritalin” as if it were possible to modify ourselves just from the outside.

The pieces of furniture I often use in my work speak also about the human body. These objects from everyday life project our own experiences, desires and memories. By covering them with small irid glass tiles and by lying them with copper wires I refer to the fragility and the impossibility of finding an easy balance.

Silvia Levenson, January 2007

Life Strategies, 2007
Installation: Glass, chair, video
70 x 70 in., dimensions may vary.
\$17,000



Life Strategies, 2007
Detail



SILVIA LEVENSON CV



Solo Exhibitions

2009

Io ti perdono. (I forgive you) Galleria Traghetto, Roma, Italy.
Little Ulysses. Galleria San Salvatore, Modena. Italy.

2008

You are not living alone.... Bullseye Gallery. Portland (OR) USA
The kitchen, el corazon de la casa. Galeria Montoriol, Barcelona, Spain (with Natalia Saurin)

2007

Happy forever, Caterina Tognon, Venezia, Italy.

2006

Something's wrong, with Natalia Saurin. Galleria Arthobler. Porto. Portugal.
Piccoli Ulisse, Festival della Letteratura, Mantova, Italy
Plaza de Mayo, Galleria Traghetto. Roma, Italy.
Algo anda mal, video with Natalia Saurin , Ambasciata Argentina, Roma, Italy.

2005

Caterina Tognon .Contemporary Art, Venezia, Italy.
I see you are a bit nervous. Bullseye Connections Gallery. Portland(OR) USA (installazione + video con Natalia Saurin)

2004

Toys & Games, project con Galleria Caterina Tognon , Art Miami Fair, USA
Sit down!, Olivier Houg, Lyon. Francia.
Scope New York, project room with Caterina Tognon
Scope London, project room with Caterina Tognon
FIAC, Paris, project room with Caterina Tognon

2003

Piccolo Ulisse, Galleria Caterina Tognon, Bergamo-Venezia
Games and Fairly tales,. Bullseye Connections Gallery, Portland. USA
Bambina spinosa, Arthobler Gallery, Porto, Portugal.
Sogni d'oro, a cura di O.Gambari. Silvy Bassanese, Biella , Italy.

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Solo Exhibitions (continued)

2003

Piccolo Ulisse, Galleria Caterina Tognon, Bergamo-Venezia
Games and Fairly tales,. Bullseye Connections Gallery, Portland. USA
Bambina spinosa, Arthobler Gallery, Porto, Portugal.
Sogni d'oro, a cura di O.Gambari. Silvy Bassanese, Biella , Italy.

2002

Silenzio, bambini .Caterina Tognon, Venezia, Italy
Toys (two persons exhibition) Galleria San Salvatore, Modena. Italy

2001

Bambina Spinosa, Orietta Berlanda curator Centro Arte Contemporanea Cavalese. Italy
Piccoli Tesori, Galeria Esther Montoriol, Barcelona, Spain.
Correre ai ripari. Museo del Credito Valtellinese di Sondrio, Paola Tognon curator. Italy
Correre ai ripari, Fioretto Arte Contemporanea, Padova. Italy
Bambina Cattiva, Gemine Muse. Museo Archeologico. Padova. Italy
Piccoli tesori, a cura di Manuela Gandini e Paola Tognon . Galleria Maria Cilena. Italy

2000

Bambina Cattiva Galleria D'arte & Divetro, Bergamo.
Design by Silvia Levenson, Braggiotti Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Haute Glass, Bullseye Connections, Portland, USA.

1999

Fashion Glass, Spring-Summer 1999. a cura di C.Guidi. Maria Cilena Gallery, Milano, Italy.
Cinderella's shoes. Galerie Hyaline, Marseille. France.
Fashion Glass. Glasmuseum Ebeltoft, Denmark.
UK Gallery, Koln, Germany.

1998

Cenetta Intima (table for two). testo di F.Pasini. Bullseye Connections, Portland. Oregon (USA)
Braggiotti Gallery, Amsterdam

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Solo Exhibitions (continued)

1997

Non guardarmi così, tesoro, a cura di F. Pasini. con F. Martinez. Care/of . Milano, Italy
Tutto è in ordine, caro. Materia Prima Gallery, Venezia, Italy

1996

Cannibalisme des sentiments. Sars Poteries Glass Museum. France
Batalla Naval. Materia prima Gallery, Venezia, Italy
Levenson/Northbrook. Bullseye Connection, Portland, Oregon USA.

1995

Il viaggio. a cura di Lucilla Saccà. Mercato del Pesce, Milano
Valijas transparentes. Centro Recoleta, Buenos Aires.
Galleria D'arte & Divetro., Bergamo, Italy.
Il viaggio: Selected Works. Bullseye Connection, Portland, Oregon

Group Exhibitions

2009

Favorites! from the contemporary glass collection
Corning Glass Museum, Corning, USA.
Ceramic Art & Design Collection from Italy-7 W New York@
PF 09 . PRAGUE FESTIVAL, POKORNA GALLERY, Praga.
Welcome Home, Spazio AB 23, Vincenza.
Beyond Shared Language: Contemporary Art and the Latin American Experience.
Society for Contemporary Craft, Pittsburgh, USA.
Incontri Casuali, Zaion Gallery, Biella. Italy.

2008

European Glass Context. Bornholms Kunst Museum, Denmark
La Giostra dell'apocalisse. Rotonda della Besana, Milano.
Flux, Reflections in Contemporary Glass, New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe. USA

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Group Exhibitions (continued)

2008

Presenters, Bullseye Gallery. Portland (OR) USA
My own Gallery, Milano. Bombay Sapphire Prize.
Yalos, why Glass? Claudia Gianferrari, Milano
Yalos, why glass?. Caterina Tognon, Venezia
Video Dialoghi, a cura di Olga Gambar.Unione Culturale Antonicelli, Torino
Shoes, Tikanoja Art Museum, Vaasa, Finland
Visionaria 17, Piombino (Italy)
Videa2, rassegna di video art al femminile.Frac Baronissi, Salerno (Italy)
Videa2, rassegna di video art al femminile. Palazzo Strozzi, Ferrara.
Delicartessen, Galeria Esther Montoriol, Barcelona, Spain

2007

Il viaggio di Eva, a cura di Angela Madesani, Comune de San Donato Milanese(MI)
Visioni Parallele, a cura di Olga Gambari. Mp & Partners, Torino
Aria, a cura di Valerio Dehò. Fondazione Ermanno Casoli
Annisettanta, a cura di Gianni Canova. Triennale. Milano
2 video, project on line, curated by Francesca di Nardo

2006

Crafting a collection, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.
Glass, Material Matters, Los Angeles County Museum of Art
XX Years On, GLasmuseum Ebeltof, Denmark, a cura di E.Swisburne.
Rompecabezas, Galeria Montoriol, Barcelona. Spain
Coburger Glass Prize. Coburg, Germany 2006.
Biennale della fotografia, Brescia,Italy.
Levenson. Vetroricerca. Museo del Vidrio Alcorcon. Spain
Contemporary Kiln-Glass at Houston Center .USA
Contemporary Kiln Glass, University of Miami, College of Arts and Sciences Gallery, Florida.USA

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Group Exhibitions (continued)

2005

Quadriennale.Roma. Italy

Chez moi, a cura di M.Gandini. Galleria Erasmus Brera.Milano

Sotto la superficie, a cura di F.Montrasio e M. Mojana. Fabbrica del Vapore. Milano

Global Art Glass.Borgholms Slott. Vida Museum Sweden.

2004

Something Different, Quadrivum Gallery. Sydney. Australia

Ernersting Glass Collection, Germania.

Lilit, women in art. Scuderie Aldrobrandi. Frascati.

Neruda. Istituto Latinoamericano, Roma.

Pranzo di nozze, Fioretto Arte Contemporanea, Padova.

Delicartessen, Galeria Esther Montoriol, Barcelona, Spain

Me design. Palazzo della Borsa, Genova.

2003

Interior secrets of body, Ludwug Museum, Budapest, Hungary

Imagerie Art Fashion, Castello di Rivara, Trieste.

Start, a cura di O.Berlanda and Nicola Angerame. Centro Arte Cavalese (TN).

Chaussè-croisés, Gewerbemuseum Wintherhtur, Germany

Hot for Glass!, Visual Art Center. California State University,USA

The Light Within, Kintucky Art Museum,USA

XS, a cura di Luca Beatrice. Galleria San Salvatore, Modena.

Segreto Professionale, a cura di Giovanna Brambilla Ranise e Sara Mazzocchi, Studio Brambilla,Maestroni E Associati, Milano

Fresh, Heller Gallery, New York

Touch of Glass. Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Londra, a cura di Caterina Tognon, London UK

Delicartessen, Galeria Esther Montoriol, Barcelona, Spain.

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Group Exhibitions (continued)

2002

Glass Way, Museo Archeologico. Aosta.

Musica per occhi, a cura di Paola Tognon., Conservatorio, Bolzano.

Galerie Olivier Houg, Lyon, France.

Wishing, a cura di Viana Conti. Silvy Bassanese Arte Contemporanea, Biella,

Luoghi di Concentramenti, Artandgallery, a cura di M.Gandini. Milano.

Braggiotti Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Il lato scuro della letteratura.. B&B Gallery, Mantova.

Museum of Design, Lausanne. Swiss

Galeria Esther Montoriol, Barcelona. Spain

2001

Ghost, GianFerrari Arte Contemporanea & Ciocca Gallery, Milan, Italy.

Tagli , a cura di M. Gandini. Spazio Erasmus, Milano.

Tutto l'odio del mondo.a cura di A.Riva. Arengario, Milano

Hora Cero, Galleria Esther Montoriol, Barcelona, Spain

La notte dei Musei, a cura di P. Tognon. Bergamo,

Vetri, Luciano Collantonio, Brescia.

2000

Sui Generis. A cura di A.Riva. PAC, Milan, Italy

Frangibile, Sala , a cura di P. Tognon. Spazio Trevi, Bolzano,

Trapassato Futuro, a cura di A.Riva. Cartiera Vannucci, Milano

Vocazioni .a cura di P.Tognon. Convento dei Celestini,Bergamo.

Summer Show, Galleria Maria Cilena , Milano

Galerie L'eclat du verre Gallery , Parigi, France

All about Eve, Fioretto Gallery, Padova

No crime, a cura di A.Madesani & C.Zanfi San Salvatore Gallery, Modena, Italy

1999

12th Anniversary, Braggiotti Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Galleria D'Arte & Divetro Bergamo.

Trasparenze, Galleria Luisa delle Piane ,Milano

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Group Exhibitions (continued)

1998

Preview, Galleria Maria Cilena, Milano.

Interpretations . Glasmuseum Ebeltoft, Denmark.

Full Circle. Hoffman Gallery Portland, USA

Cronache Vere .a cura di A.Riva. Spazio Consolo, Milano

Ernesting Glass Museum, Coefeld, Germany

Casa d'altri. a cura di C.Guidi. Omphalos Arte Contemporanea, Terlizzi

L'opening è dentro. A cura di C.Guidi. Istituto Penitenziario Minorile C.Beccaria .

1997

O che acontece quando se muda de lugar, Contemporary Art Museum. Belo Horizonte, Brasil

3 person exhibition. Ernesting Glass Collection, Germany

Galleria D'arte & Divetro , Bergamo

Braggiotti Gallery, Amsterdam.

1996

Tracce/Huellas. Fuoricentro Gallery, Roma

1995

Book-object. Centro Wilfredo Lam. La Habana, Cuba

International Exhibition of Glass, Kanazawa.(*)

New Glass a Venezia. Galleria D'arte & Divetro, Venezia

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Public Collections

Fine Art Museum, Houston. USA.
New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fè (USA)
Corning Museum , Corning USA (Rakow Commision)
Bullseye Glass Company, Portland (OR) USA
Tikanoja Art Museum, Vaasa, Finlandia
Musée du Verre Sars Poteries, France
Ernsting Glass Collection, Germany
Glasmuseum Ebeltoft, Denmark
Museo Leon Rigaulleau, Argentina
Coleccion Casas de las Americas, Cuba.
Comune di Castelvetro, Castelvetro (Modena).Italy
Fondazione Remotti, Camogli. Italy.
Fondazione Banca San Gottardo, Italy
Museo di Storia ed Arte, Sondrio, Italy
Glas Museum Fraueneau, Germany
Museo del Vetro, Altare. Italy

Selected Awards

2008, Finalist , Bombay Sapphire Prize
2004 Rakow Commission Awrđ Recipient, Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NW



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