

GRANT WINNERS EXHIBITION  2008



The Art Students League of New York

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November 5 – 26, 2008

Reception: November 6, 6 – 8 PM

Phyllis Harriman Mason Gallery

The Art Students League of New York, 2nd Fl.

215 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019



This Exhibition is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

Silvia Franco

Nessa Cohen Grant

My formal art education began when I studied sculpture near my home at De Escuela Artes Aplicadas y Oficios Artisticos in Valladolid, Spain from 1985 to 1989. I graduated with a certificate in Tecnicas Del Volumen (Techniques in Sculpture). I came to New York in 1996 to continue my studies. After learning English at Hunter College, I enrolled at the Art Students League in 1998 and for the next eight years studied with Jonathan Shahn, Peter Cox, Anthony Palumbo, Gary Sussman, Seiji Saito and Richard Pantell, earning two Certificates of Completion in sculpture and printmaking. My teachers at the League guided me toward my own sense of expression and helped me to further refine the techniques I learned in Valladolid. In 2006 I received a Nessa Cohen Scholarship Grant. Although the Nessa Cohen Grant is not connected with traveling, growing up in Spain enabled me to see many great European masterpieces. More recently, I traveled to Italy for the first



Silvia Franco, *Wave II*, aquatint and etching, 9 x 17 in.

Education

De Escuela De Artes Aplicadas y Oficios Aristicos, Valladolid, Spain 1985-89
The Art Students League of New York, NY 1998-2006

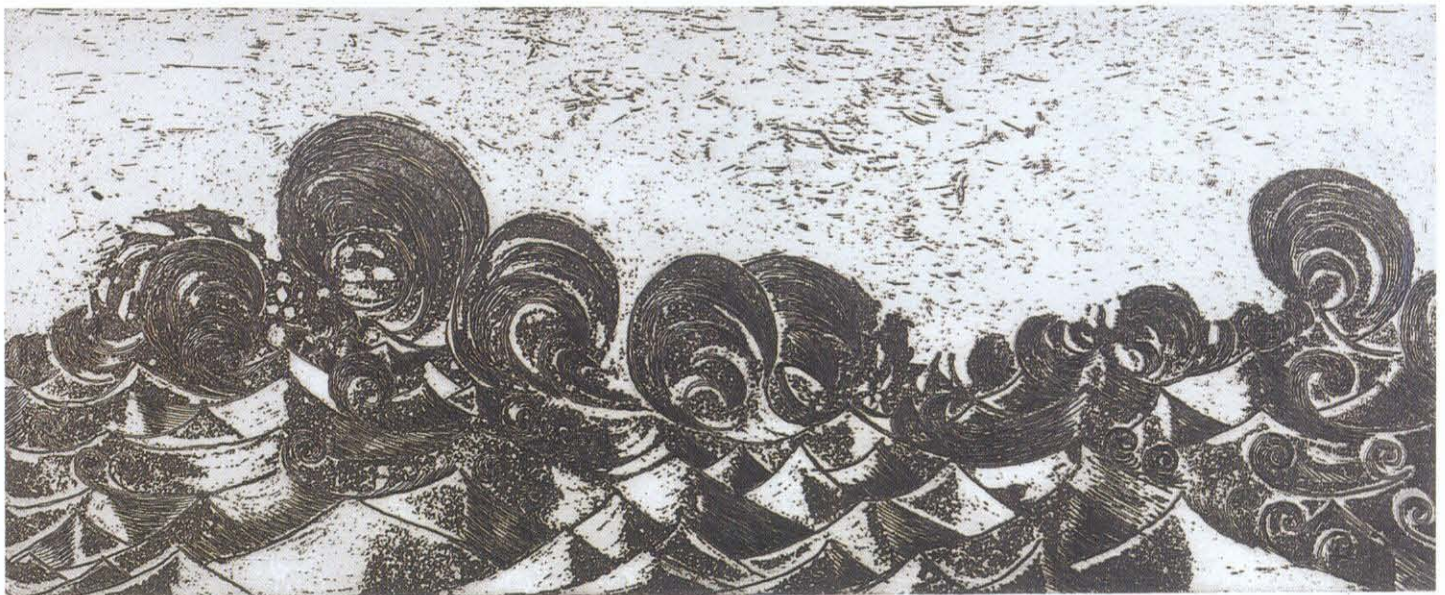
time, and what I saw on that trip made a significant impact on my work. Visiting so many museums and churches inspired me to make countless drawings. I felt an especially strong connection with Italian Baroque art. After returning to New York, I used those drawings to create a series of prints and sculptures.

Tribal art was my earliest influence. The high level of sophistication in what is often considered "primitive" art still motivates my ideas for sculpture and prints. I especially love fine African and Indonesian art.

The ability to create in art has allowed me to see possibilities in all my other endeavors. I grew up in a family that gave me a great appreciation for the arts. There was a lot of music and dancing. My father had a beautiful voice and taught me how to sing. He also loved literature.

I continue to show my work in group and occasional solo exhibitions. I would eventually like to teach children about how to make art and share with them the artistic values that I learned growing up.

Silvia Franco, *Wave IV*, aquatint and etching, 8 ½ x 17 ½ in.



9/15

WAVE IV

SILVIA FRANCO 2005