

## CONTINUING AND RECOMMENDED, SEPTEMBER 2014



Julie Orser, "Not Yet Tomorrow," video and multi-color plastic VHS cassette boxes.

Now in its fifth iteration, "Analog/Digital" is a celebration of current artistic photographic practices. Curator Matt May has assembled a range of superb imagery starting with Mark Chamberlain's classic display of masterful Cibachrome prints that reveal his sensitive methodology in rendering traditional photographic techniques. With artistic eyes, using saturated colors and subtle lighting, Chamberlain transforms everyday scenes into historic documents. George Katzenberger works with mid-70s computers to produce shapes and shading from dot matrix grids and assorted keyboard characters. They form soulful scenes that manage not to appear outdated. Ashley Chen uses painterly photography. to render serene colored landscapes that use Photoshop techniques of pairing right and left sides seamlessly into each captivating setting.

Among the most playful works are Carl Berg's and Cecilia Miniucchi's humorous iPhone film, made in Holland, entitled "Bells du jour." A hand rings one bell at a time attached to the many bikes, baby carriages, and assorted vehicles that fill Dutch cities. The bark of Annie Buckley's elegant trees culminates in human legs and shoes. Expertly crafted photo-collage, done piece-by-piece, these perfectly rendered metaphors are among the visual hits of the show. Julie Orser conceives of an inventive architectural installation placed on two high, right-angled windows from pink, yellow, and blue transparent video cases. Light shines through, creating a stained glass curtain effect, while two inserted screens play two different films of people singing a capella. Orser embellishes the gallery with a captivating glow and a funky atmosphere.

From classical methods using traditional cameras and darkroom developing, to imagery from early computer technology, to current cinematic digital-based installations, iPhones and cameras, these wide ranging works reveal the ambiguous possibilities photography offers today. But most of all, each image confirms that it is not the tools of the photographer, but the artist's unique vision that determines art's quality ([Irvine Fine Arts Center](#), Orange County).

Roberta Carasso