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Matt Sesow paints in China during july 2008

"Made in China"
show at Longview Gallery DC
August/September 2008

"DC Examiner": published September 4, 2008 (daily print edition and online):

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Made in China: Travelogue, uncensored

By Robin Tierney
Special to The Examiner 9/4/08

WASHINGTON – "Where in the world is Matt Sesow?" would make an amusing game.

One day, the D.C.-based extremo expressionist is in North Carolina, painting spontaneously, side-stage, to a live opera performance of "Don Giovanni."



"Made in China" is one Matt Sesow painting from the Made in China exhibition at Long View Gallery in Washington.

Courtesy Photo

Soon, he's jetting to San Francisco to paint the set for a play, "All You Can Eat."

Most of July, he painted his way through China with his parents and fellow artist Dana Ellyn. They found supplies along the way, as well as inspirations from acrobats to "all kinds of communists."

"I really enjoy being with my parents, so taking time away from them to paint was very difficult," Sesow said. "I rectified this situation by sketching some of my paintings using pen and ink while hanging out with them in bars and on the deck of ships, in buses. ... Dana and I had to forgo sleep and food sometimes just so we could work on the paintings."

Selections from the duo's visual travelogue now fill Long View Gallery. Sesow's graphic accounts erupt with frenzy, distress, dissent, incredulity. There are rope-walks between exhilaration and hysteria, observations conscious and subconscious of a vast morass of myriad traditions colliding with breakneck modernization.

Sesow interprets the painting, "Made in China": "I bought some playing cards with (various images) of Mao ... I noticed the prominence of his wave, his hand."

Sesow then imagined how his own painting hand might have been figuratively severed had he lived in China. The bunny rabbits at the bottom represent the innocent, marginalized Chinese people who've endured lifelong struggles.

"When you ride alone, you ride with Mao" — is a self-portrait as "the American tourist riding through Tiananmen Square on a chicken with a panda hat."

Chickens and hats are among Sesow metaphorica.

"It is the way we felt (there) when people would ask to take our pictures. Some of the people had traveled from rural villages and never seen 'westerners'," he said. The title nods to a WWII propaganda poster that likened gas-wasting solo automobile trips to "riding with Hitler."

Sesow flash-freezes the shock of events through his raw figures' facial expressions and body language. Bright colors and large, animated forms both hulking and diminutive render even primal scream scenes approachable; the Matt-osphere is tumultuous, but not forbidding.

Sesow's making good on his goal to have painted in every continent.

"I only have Antarctica to go," he said.

(If you go: Made in China; Through Sept. 20; Long View Gallery; 1302 9th St. NW, Washington; free; 202-232-4788; longviewgallery.com)

long view gallery

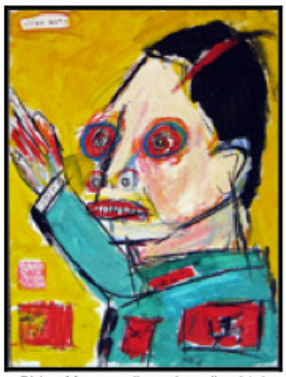
Contact: Drew Porterfield
202.232.4788
Drew_Porterfield@longviewgallery.com

Dana Ellyn and Matt Sesow
"Made in China"

August 16, 2008 – September 20, 2008
Opening Reception: Saturday, August 16, 6pm to 9pm



River Man, Acrylic on Canvas, 9x12
Dana Ellyn



China Man, acrylic and media obtained in China, 9x12
Matt Sesow

Washington, D.C. – [July 29, 2008] – The Long View Gallery is pleased to announce a new exhibition of work by D.C. artists Dana Ellyn and Matt Sesow.

China is in the news a lot these days. While garnering fewer reports of its widespread human rights violations and environmental woes, it is mostly making headlines with heartwarming stories anticipating the 2008 Olympic Games in the capital city of Beijing. With tensions high and the excitement building for the Olympics, **Dana Ellyn** and **Matt Sesow** packed up and headed to China for 3 weeks, documenting their journey on canvas and paper.

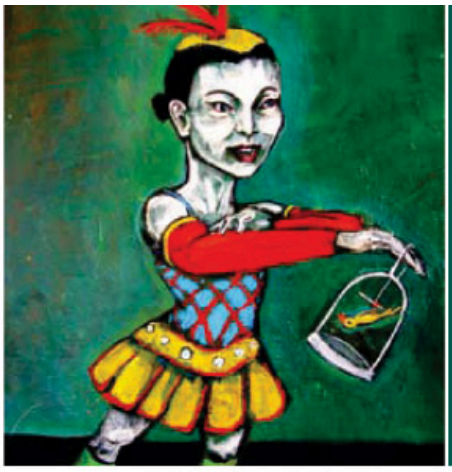
Dana Ellyn's work demonstrates a risk-taking vision, strong content and a colorful critique of social morality – perfect for traversing the complicated culture of China. Her paintings are often inspired by news stories and current events which allow for an immediate connection to her work. Ellyn's "Made in China" pieces run the gamut of Chinese figures, from street vendors to heads of state; even Mao couldn't escape her brush!

Matt Sesow, one of D.C.'s premiere outsider artists, is a master portrayer of conflict. His work demands a reaction; his expressionist style comes across frantic, though his pieces feel resolved. Like Ellyn, Sesow's work for the "Made in China" show focuses on figures he encountered while traveling around China, with the occasional chicken thrown in – a regular visitor in his work.



MATT SESOW

UNDERCOVER, ACRYLIC/MIXED MEDIA ON BRISTOL PAPER, 9 x 12



DANA ELLYN

SHANGHAI ACROBAT, ACRYLIC ON CANVAS, 9 x 12

MADE IN **CHINA**

Join us in welcoming home Matt Sesow and Dana Ellyn from a month in China. On display will be hundreds of drawings and paintings as well as video from their trip.

SHOW DATES
AUGUST 16-
SEPTEMBER 20

RECEPTION
SATURDAY
AUGUST 16
6-9 PM

long view gallery
1302 9th St., NW, Washington, DC 20001
202.232.4788 | www.longviewgallery.com

"Critic's Pick" DC City Paper:

Washington City Paper
WASHINGTON'S FREE WEEKLY

ARTS & EVENTS

"Made in China"

At Long View Gallery to September 20

By Maura Judkis
Posted: August 27, 2008



With the Olympic athletes gone, China is back to what it was when local artists Matt Sesow and Dana Ellyn visited for three weeks in July to create the works in "Made in China." And because the pair took a state-sponsored tour with other Westerners, their view of the country often evokes the sterilized images we saw while watching the Olympics—happy acrobats, pandas, posters of a waving Chairman Mao, smiling schoolchildren. A few of the paintings hint at darker themes, though, such as Ellyn's *China Trendy*, which shows four girls wearing fashionable air-quality masks, or her self-explanatory *Puppies in the Pantry*. The show, which includes paintings and collage works, also captures the artists' reactions to their trip with humor and a critical eye. Sesow's illustrated journal has snippets from the plane ride: "The pilot said we would be traveling over the North Pole. Santa?" while Ellyn's reaction to their less-than-enthusiastic tour group is *No Place Like Home*, a tall portrait of a pained-looking American in a Dorothy costume, clutching a McDonald's cup and a Chinese fan, surrounded by fascinated Chinese schoolchildren. The two artists' styles contrast especially in how they, as Westerners, portray the eyes of their Chinese subjects—Sesow's are cartoonishly round, anxious, and expressionistic, while Ellyn's are sunken and dark. Their China, while polite and stereotypical, doesn't lack for color or intrigue. "MADE IN CHINA" IS ON VIEW FROM 11 A.M. TO 7 P.M. WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY, TO Saturday, SEPT. 20, AT LONG VIEW GALLERY, 1302 9TH ST. NW. FREE. (202) 232-4788.

Aug. 29 - Sep. 4, 2008 (Vol. 28, #35)

"Top Picks", Express Paper, DC:

express

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THURSDAY | 08.28.2008 | EXPRESS | E11

Entertainment | WeekendPass

3

A Taste of China

Has the world recovered from its China-mania? That's a definitive no, because though the Olympics are over, Long View Gallery is still showing "Made in China," featuring drawings, paintings and video by local artists Dana Ellyn and Matt Sesow based on a lengthy trip to the country. Sports, art — what's next? Oh, yeah — world domination. (KE)

→ *Long View Gallery, 1302 9th St. NW; through Sept. 20: 202-232-4788. (Mt. Vernon Square)*



top stops

WEEKEND

Washington Post:

The Washington Post
Printed using recycled fiber
Saturday, August 23, 2008

Style on the Go

This Week&Next

The District

Today

[EXHIBIT] A Chinese Holiday, Caught on Canvas Two local artists, Dana Ellyn and Matt Sesow, did what many of us wish we could do and took off for a three-week jaunt through China just before the Olympics kicked off in Beijing. But it was a working holiday: Political painter Ellyn and expressionist Sesow painted and drew what they saw there, ending up with documentary-style works that capture factory workers, daily life and even an impression left by Mao. A show of some of the resulting works opened at Long View Gallery this month. Free. Wednesday-Sunday 11 a.m.-7 p.m. through Sept. 20. Long View Gallery, 1302 Ninth St. NW. 202-232-4788.

"Northwest Current":

Wednesday, August 13, 2008 Serving Communities in Northwest Washington Since 1967 Vol. XLI, No. 33

THE NORTHWEST CURRENT

EXHIBITS

■ "Made in China," an exhibit of paintings and works on paper by Dana Ellyn and Matt Sesow resulting from a three-week trip the two D.C. artists took to China, will open Saturday at **Long View Gallery** and continue through Sept. 24.

Ellyn, who lives in Penn Quarter, presents a variety of Chinese figures, from street vendors to heads of state. Similarly, Adams Morgan artist Sesow portrays Chinese figures from all walks of life, though in an expressionist style.

An opening reception will be held Saturday from 6 to 9 p.m. The gallery, located at 1302 9th St. NW, is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. 202-232-4788.



Dana Ellyn's "There's No Place Like Home" is part of Long View Gallery's new exhibition.

Paintings completed in China and for the "made in china" show at longview gallery... by matt sesow:



"China Time"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



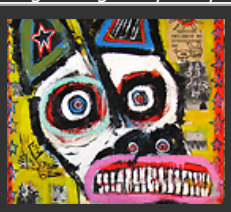
China Travel Journal

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on paper
10" x 7"
36 pages



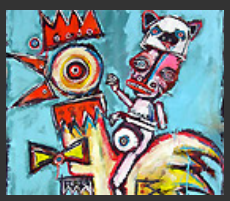
"Factory Worker"

acrylic/oil on unstretched canvas
33" x 45"
(began in China July 2008)
hong kong
*SOLD



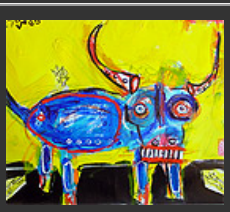
"Long March"

acrylic/oil/mixed on DC street banner and handmade paper from china
30" x 60"
(paper and collage collected from Panjiayuan Market
in Beijing China 2008)
CLICK for detail...
CLICK for full view...



"When You Ride Alone, You Ride with Mao"

acrylic/oil on unstretched canvas
33" x 45"
*SOLD



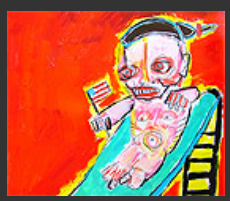
"Water buffalo"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong
*SOLD



"red Hand"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



"Downward Slide"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



"Made in China"
30" x 40"
acrylic/house paint on stretched canvas



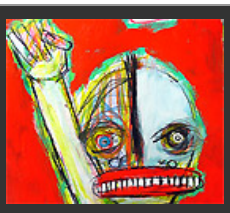
China Travel Journal

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on paper
10" x 7"
36 pages



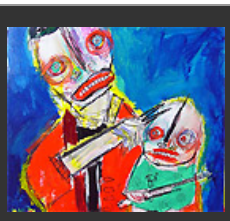
"Fixed Income"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



"Democracy"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong
*SOLD



"The Army and the People are All One Family"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



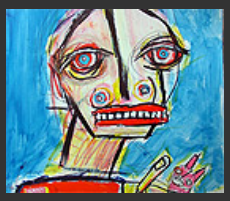
"Be Prepared"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



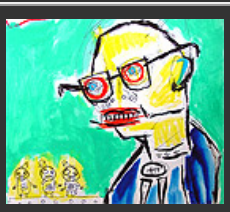
"Pong"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



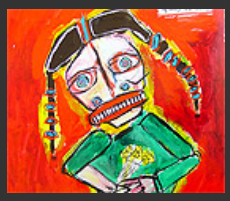
"Commie"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



"Terra Cotta Soldiers"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong
*SOLD



"Opening Ceremony"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



"Tour Guide Look Away"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



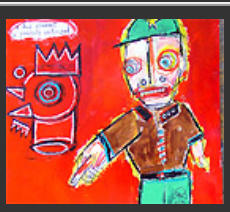
"Ten Thousand Buddhas"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong
*SOLD



"Guaridan Angel in China"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



"A Bad Element is publicly criticized"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
while traveling through 3 gorges damn
*SOLD



"Kung Foo High School"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



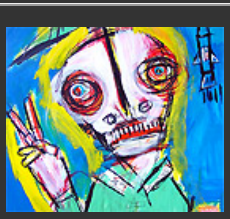
"Cup O' Bunny"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
while traveling through 3 gorges damn



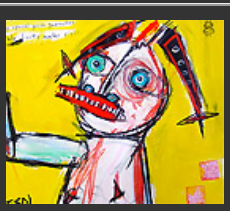
"Lucky Pandas"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



"Two Fingers
(with american missle)"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
while traveling on yangtze in china



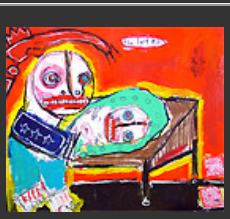
"best Guarantee"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong
*SOLD



"Paper Tiger"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



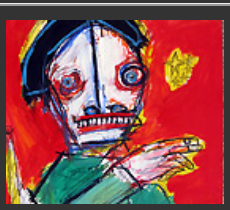
"Last Kiss"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
while traveling through 3 gorges damn



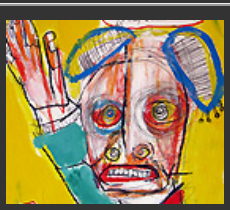
"Soldiers and Members of the Party"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



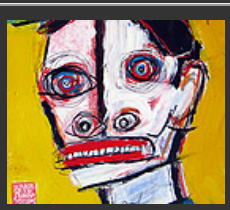
"Work is Struggling"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper



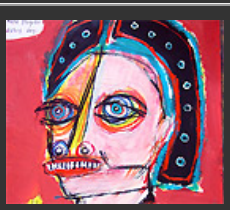
"It Takes a Worried Man,
to Sing a Worried Song"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper



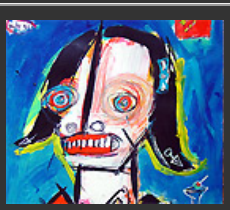
"Bombs Away"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper



"Study Hard, Make Progress Every Day"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper



"Party Girl"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
11" x 14"

9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)

9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)

9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)

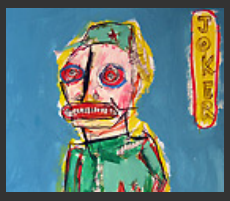
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
hong kong
*SOLD

(created in China July 2008)
hong kong



"Mao in Henan"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



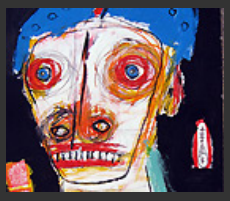
"Joker"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



"Yangtze Smoke"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



"Blues Lute China"

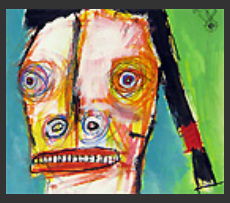
acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



"China Man"

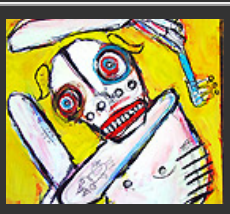
acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)

SEE photos from Matt Sesow in China by CLICKING here...



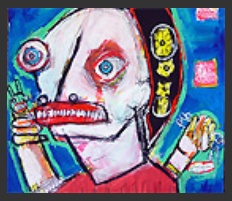
"Dream to be Shanghai Acrobat"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



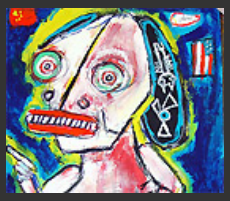
"Eastern-style Squat"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
while traveling through 3 garges dam locks in china



"Colonialism"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
while traveling on yangtze in china



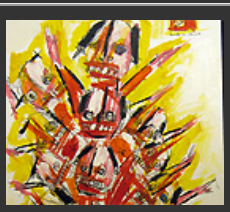
"Ideal"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
while traveling on yangtze in china



"Mao"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



"Young Girls on Bike"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
*SOLD

SEE photos from Matt Sesow in China by CLICKING here...



"Zhan Zhan rides a Bike"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



"Punch Panda"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
*SOLD



"h5n1 (chicken fight back)"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
*SOLD



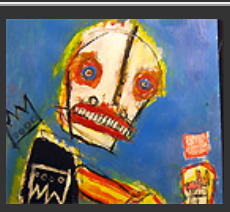
"American Buddha"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



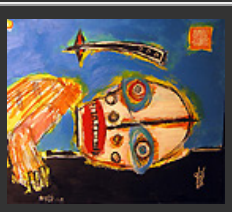
"Sounds Familiar"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



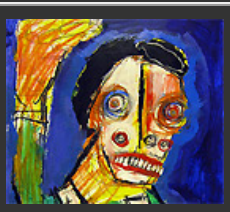
"Affection"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



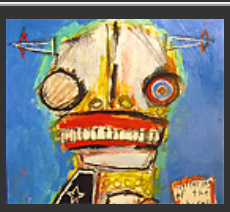
"Broken"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



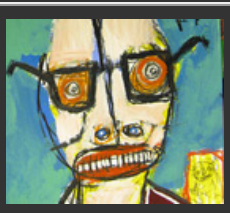
"Scottie"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



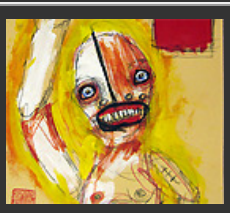
"Abacus"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



"Undercover"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in



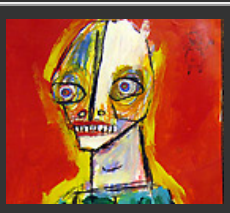
"Sesow in China"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while



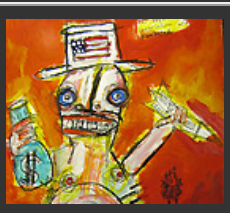
"Meat"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained



"Just Visiting"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while



"Imperial"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in

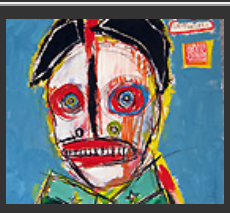
China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
*SOLD

in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)

while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)

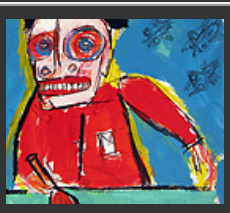
in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)

China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



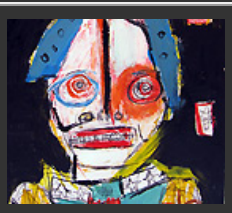
"Conservative"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



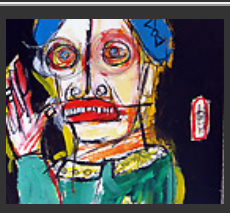
"Mao Pong"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



"Single Child Twin Policy"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



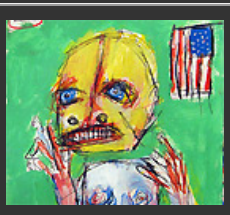
"Mao in Beijing"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



"Burning Hearts"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



"half American"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
inspired by 'China Daily' newspaper
original picture attached on back
*SOLD



"Party Elite"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
inspired by 'China Daily' newspaper
original picture attached on back



"Pals."

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
inspired by 'China Daily' newspaper
original picture attached on back



"Six Party"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
inspired by 'China Daily' newspaper
original picture attached on back
*SOLD



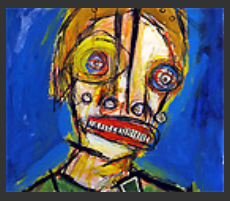
"Cocoa"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
inspired by 'China Daily' newspaper
original picture attached on back



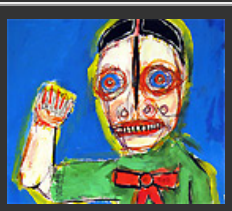
"Subcontinent Development"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
inspired by 'China Daily' newspaper
original picture attached on back



"Smiles"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
inspired by 'China Daily' newspaper
original picture attached on back



"Ready to Serve"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
inspired by 'China Daily' newspaper
original picture attached on back



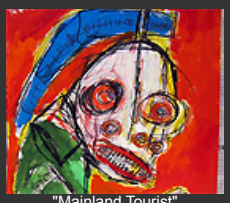
"Toast"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
inspired by 'China Daily' newspaper
original picture attached on back



"Out Jezebel"

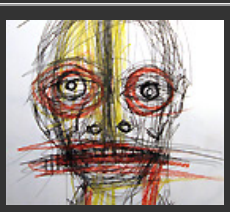
acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)
inspired by 'China Daily' newspaper
original picture attached on back



"Mainland Tourist"
Paintings from China 2008

9"x12"

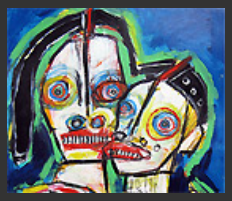
(created in China July 2008)



Paintings from China 2008

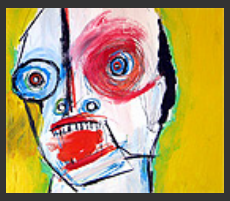
journal sample.. not done, in progress

(created in China July 2008)
sample of journal in progresspage1
sample of journal in progresspage2
sample of journal in progresspage3
sample of journal in progresspage4



"Shanghi Trendy"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



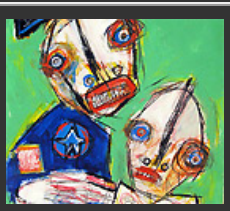
"Loudmouth"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)

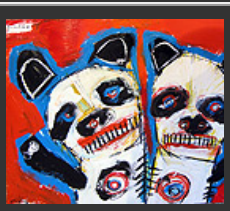


"Acrobat Waiting"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China)
on bristol paper
9" x 12"
(created in China July 2008)



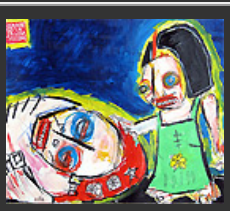
"Disappointment"



"Friendship"



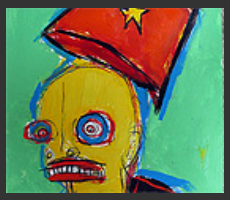
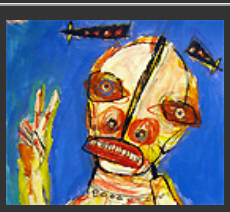
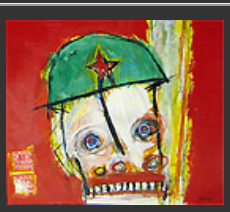
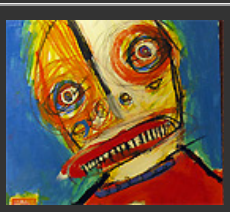
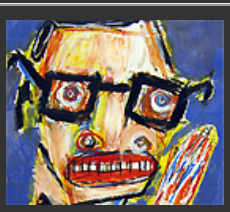
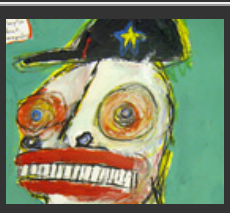
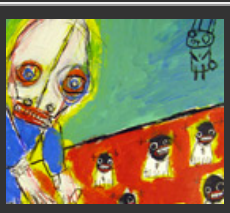
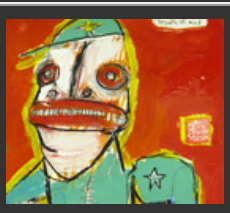
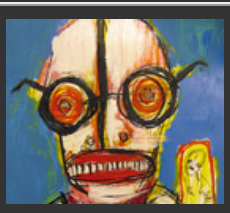
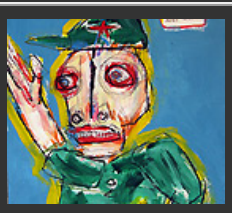
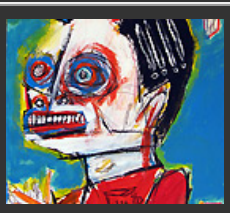
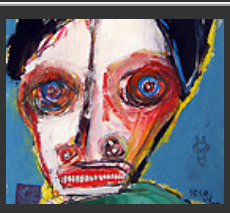
"Made in China"



"Bicyclist"



"Kitty"

acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008) inspired by 'China Daily' newspaper original picture attached on back	acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008) *SOLD	acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008) *SOLD	acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)
 "One Child Policy" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008) *SOLD SEE photos from Matt Sesow in China by CLICKING here...	 "Maoist" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Handicraft" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Factory" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Condolences" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)
 "Piece" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Made on the Yangtze" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Outside the Restaurant" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Buddha Bud" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "McGoo" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)
 "Shipwreck" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Yangtze River Boat Commander" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008) *SOLD	 "Perfect Catch" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Party Priveleged" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Education" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008) *SOLD
 "Breadth of Mind" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Member" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Mao Wave" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "The Clap" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)	 "Happy" acrylic/mixed (media obtained while in China) on bristol paper 9" x 12" (created in China July 2008)

Full text from above Washington Post article:
A Chinese Holiday, Caught on Canvas: Two local artists, Dana Ellyn and Matt Sesow, did what many of us wish we could do and took off for a three-week jaunt through China just before the Olympics kicked off in Beijing. But it was a working holiday: Political painter Ellyn and expressionist Sesow painted and drew what they saw there, ending up with documentary-style works that capture factory workers, daily life and even an impression left by Mao. A show of some of the resulting works opened at Long View Gallery this month. Free. Wednesday-Sunday 11am-7pm through Sept 20. Long View Gallery, 1302 Ninth Street, NW 202-23204788.

Full text from above City Paper article:
"Made in China"
At Long View Gallery to September 20

By Maura Judkis
Posted: August 27, 2008

With the Olympic athletes gone, China is back to what it was when local artists Matt Sesow and Dana Ellyn visited for three weeks in July to create the works in "Made in China." And because the pair took a state-sponsored tour with other Westerners, their view of the country often evokes the sterilized images we saw while watching the Olympics„happy acrobats, pandas, posters of a waving Chairman Mao, smiling schoolchildren. A few of the paintings hint at darker themes, though, such as Ellyn's China Trendy, which shows four girls wearing fashionable air-quality masks, or her self-explanatory Puppies in the Pantry. The show, which includes paintings and collage works, also captures the artists' reactions to their trip with humor and a critical eye. Sesow's illustrated journal has snippets from the plane ride: "The pilot said we would be traveling over the North Pole. Santa?" while Ellyn's reaction to their less-than-enthusiastic tour group is No Place Like Home, a tall portrait of a pained-looking American in a Dorothy costume, clutching a McDonald's cup and a Chinese fan, surrounded by fascinated Chinese schoolchildren. The two artists' styles contrast especially in how they, as Westerners, portray the eyes of their Chinese subjects„Sesow's are cartoonishly round, anxious, and expressionistic, while Ellyn's are sunken and dark. Their China, while polite and stereotypical, doesn't lack for color or intrigue. "MADE IN CHINA" IS ON VIEW FROM 11 A.M. TO 7 P.M. WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY, TO Saturday, SEPT. 20, AT LONG VIEW GALLERY, 1302 9TH ST. NW. FREE. (202) 232-4788. Aug. 29 - Sep. 4, 2008 (Vol. 28, #35)

Press Release:

long view gallery

1302 9th St NW
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 232-4788
www.longviewgallery.com

Mt Vernon Sq 7th St - Convention Center, Green and Yellow Line.
Neighborhood: Shaw

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Drew Porterfield
202.232.4788
Drew_Porterfield@longviewgallery.com

Dana Ellyn and Matt Sesow
"Made in China" August 16 - September 20, 2008

Opening Reception: Saturday, August 16, 6 to 9pm

Washington, D.C. - [July 29, 2008] - The Long View Gallery is pleased to announce a new exhibition of work by D.C. artists Dana Ellyn and Matt Sesow.

China is in the news a lot these days. While garnering fewer reports of its widespread human rights violations and environmental woes, it is mostly making headlines with heartwarming stories anticipating the 2008 Olympic Games in the capital city of Beijing. With tensions high and the excitement building for the Olympics, Dana Ellyn and Matt Sesow packed up and headed to China for 3 weeks, documenting their journey on canvas and paper.

Dana Ellyn's work demonstrates a risk-taking vision, strong content and a colorful critique of social morality - perfect for traversing the complicated culture of China. Her paintings are often inspired by news stories and current events which allow for an immediate connection to her work. Ellyn's "Made in China" pieces run the gamut of Chinese figures, from street vendors to heads of state; even Mao couldn't escape her brush!

Matt Sesow, one of D.C.'s premiere outsider artists, is a master portrayer of conflict. His work demands a reaction; his expressionist style comes across frantic, though his pieces feel resolved. Like Ellyn, Sesow's work for the "Made in China" show focuses on figures he encountered while traveling around China, with the occasional chicken thrown in - a regular visitor in his work.



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