

GREG KUCERA GALLERY, INC.

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MADE IN U.S.A.

April 1 - May 15, 2010

Opening reception: Thursday, April 1, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.



MICHAEL KNUTSON
BIPOLAR COILS III, 2009 Oil on canvas 36 x 36 inches

My Dear Fellow Americans,

As Americans, and as consumers, we are confronted every day with purchasing decisions about what to buy and where to spend our hard-earned money. We notice with dismay that so few of the products we buy in our stores are made in this country. We're well aware that very little manufacturing is done here any longer. Our raw resources are often shipped elsewhere to become products from other countries. Even our very jobs are often outsourced in favor of cheaper labor elsewhere. All of this weighs heavy on our collective conscience.

At the same time we are exhorted by the media to "buy local!" To "reduce our carbon footprints." To "think green!" And we are bombarded with buzzwords like "sustainable" and "globalization."

It occurs to us that Seattle's galleries, all of which are small businesses, provide American-made goods and products of exceptional value and quality. "Made in the U.S.A.," the group show we have curated this month, is an example of that American ideal. Not as some jingoistic expression of xenophobia, but as a celebration of this country and all it can achieve.

While none of the artists represented in this exhibition were asked to create work about or referencing the idea of American made, all of these artists are making their work here in their own studios, often employing local assistants, nearby fabricators and other artists in their production. They are using materials that are bought here and sometimes made here as well. These artists are part of a complex food chain of very small increments but they represent the continuation of a long-held American tradition, emblematically referred to as "Made in U.S.A."

This gallery employs four full-time staff members, our Gallery Frames shop has three employees, and our resale business, Seattle ArtREsource, has one more. A total payroll of ten including its owners. We have not sent any of their jobs overseas, nor do we plan to. Neither do we maintain an offshore banking account.

No big deal. We're just saying.

We hope that you will join us as we support and celebrate these American artists.

Sincerely,

Greg Kucera