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Les meves notes

Last chance to visit the exhibition "Human Glue". Don't miss it!

per [Hundred Years Gallery](#) el dimarts, 26 / juny / 2012 a les 15:47 ·

[Edita](#)

HYG extends its last exhibition "Human Glue" until 3rd of July.

If you want to know more about the exhibition, read the next review by the journalist Elena Manrique.



"Human Glue", the family life from another point of view

The concept of family, from its more traditional point of view, has considerably changed during the last decades. We no longer understand the family strictly as father, mother and children; the family can also be a result of a close friendship and not only pure genetics.

This is the idea that permeates "Human Glue", the latest exhibition hosted by Hundred Years Gallery. Four artists, Beverlie Manson, Mark Paulding, Thea Penna and Johnny Cole, through the paintings, drawings, and their personal miscellaneous objects here exhibited, expose and exchange their particular visions about the family realm.

In her hyper-realistic work, Thea Penna portrays the changing relationship between herself and her daughter Lyla Pearl, and her transformation to woman after being a mother. Her artwork manifests her conflicting emotions over the loss of freedom and taking responsibility, tension that is reflected in one of the pieces in which Lila appears in the background with an almost cruel face and Thea ties her hair holding herself back.

Johnny Cole, always provocative, expresses his vision of the family, from the perspective of someone who has lived the difficult experience of a traumatic adoption. His paintings, drawings and books reflect his very particular world, drifting among cynicism, deep sadness, dark humor and punk sort of habits.

Mark Paulding, also adopted, depicts in his paintings (based on photographs of the family album) instants of ordinary happiness of those people who years later became his family, remarking the perspective of himself as an outsider.

Finally, Beverlie Manson provides the magical, innocent and unreal point to the exhibition. Her drawings take us back to childhood, showing us an oneiric fairy tale world where also live some dark beings.

One of the exhibition's spaces transports us to a familiar living room, with typical household objects like a mirror, shelves, some children's toys or a carpet. The carpet, which occupies the centre of the room, is decorated with children's sweaters obsessively knitted (there are dozens of them) by little Lyla's grandmother. This piece is reminiscent the work of the American artist Mike Kelly, who used to reflect on the conventions of the family and incorporated children's items and carpets in his artworks.

"Human Glue" shows how the family, as entity in itself, has evolved giving way to other human relationships that bind (like glue) more than blood ties. In fact, in real life, their strong friendship has made of these artists a new peculiar family.