



IRVING SANDLER AND MARYLYN DINTENFASS ATTRACT FULL HOUSE TO THE CUE ART FOUNDATION FOR HARD PRESS EDITIONS EVENT

For Immediate Release (New York, NY): A standing-room only crowd gathered at the CUE Art Foundation, December 10, 2011, for renowned art critic Irving Sandler's interview of Marylyn Dintenfass. The interview, in conjunction with the release of Aliza Edelman's new monograph *MARYLYN DINTENFASS PARALLEL PARK*—published by Hard Press Editions—marked the one-year anniversary of the dedication of Marylyn Dintenfass' monumental 30,000 square foot public art installation, *Parallel Park* in Fort Myers, Florida. Collectors, artists, art historians, film makers and art world luminaries witnessed an energetic exchange in which Sandler skillfully probed to have Dintenfass discuss her work and practices.

Sandler focused on Dintenfass' long history as an artist of organic autobiographical abstractions in her work as a painter, sculptor, printmaker and installation artist. Dintenfass, who is normally reticent about discussing the meaning of her work, and whose deflating bywords are "things are not what they seem," became unusually candid in her responses to Sandler's inquiring and, at times, challenging questions. Sandler got Dintenfass to talk about the contradictory nature of her organic imagery and her use of the grid as a formal and psychological device to amplify her personal thoughts and artistic intentions.

Much of the discussion focused on Dintenfass' creation of the 30,000 square foot *Parallel Park* installation at the Lee County Courthouse Parking Garage, which has had a stunning transformational effect on the urban environment of Fort Myers. The garage has become a visual landmark and is often mistaken for an art museum. Visitors sometimes park their cars outside the parking structure and enter expecting to see paintings and sculpture, only to find the structure's true nature as a parking garage revealed. Indeed, "things are not what they seem."

Sandler's dexterity in handling the interview confirmed his status as a pre-eminent scholar and critic noted for incisive interviews and writings on the legendary Abstract Expressionists [his *Abstract Expressionism and the American Experience: A Reevaluation*, 2009, is also published by Hard Press Editions]. He guided Dintenfass through her life-long visceral love affair with culturally iconic automobiles—the genesis for the series of paintings that became the springboard for *Parallel Park*—and her characteristic career-long work in personally thematic and media relevant series such as *Roots and Shoots*, *Good and Plenty Juicy*, *Souped Up/Tricked Out* and her current series focus *Perfect Pitch*.

Art historian Aliza Edelman, author of *MARYLYN DINTENFASS PARALLEL PARK*, led a question and answer discussion following the interview, exploring Dintenfass' intriguing thematic imagery and the triumphs and obstacles artists face mobilizing their ideas in new settings when working with architects and public art committees. Edelman noted "*Parallel Park* is an aperture and civic gateway for successful urban transformation...*Parallel Park* is not a destination for Dintenfass' career, but truly a site for continual departures." Edelman was joined by book contributors Barbara Anderson Hill, Michele Cohen, John Driscoll and Jennifer McGregor in signing copies of the book following the discussion.

Marylyn Dintenfass' work is in major public and private collections in Europe, Israel, Japan and throughout the United States including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Cleveland Museum of Art, the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Her 2011 Babcock Galleries' exhibition *Souped Up/Tricked Out* was identified by *Modern Painters* magazine as one of "*The 100 Best Fall Shows*" worldwide. *Parallel Park* was highlighted in the January 2012 issue of *ARTnews*, described by Donald Miller as having "raised a parking garage in Fort Myers, to art status."

For further details on the *Parallel Park* installation, and Marylyn Dintenfass' work, visit www.marylyndintenfass.com or www.babcockgalleries.com. Information on Hard Press Editions' *MARYLYN DINTENFASS PARALLEL PARK* can be found at www.dintenfassparallelpark.com or www.hardpresseditions.com.