

TABLA RASA GALLERY
presents

FINE LINES
The Exquisite Drawings of
Paul McDonough
October 6 to October 27, 2018

Artist's Reception and Book Signing
Saturday, October 6, 2018



Paul McDonough, *Model with Vase and Pillow*, Graphite pencil

Artist's Reception: SATURDAY, October 6, 2018
3:00 – 5:00 pm

Mr. McDonough will be signing copies of his book, "In the Studio,"
recently published by Waal-Boght Press

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Gallery hours: 1:00 - 5:00 pm
THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY
Call 718.833.9100 for events and schedule updates.

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TABLA RASA GALLERY
224 48 Street (between 2nd & 3rd Avenues)
Brooklyn, NY 11220
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<http://www.tablarasagallery.com/>

FREE

*ABOUT FINE LINES

Tabla Rasa Gallery is delighted to present FINE LINES, an exhibit of life drawings. **Paul McDonough** offers something magical: images that transport us beyond identifiable time and place, images that provoke questions of gender politics, a delicious visual seduction, all engendered from the simple act of skillfully touching pencil or pen to paper.

Fellow artist and Co-director of Tabla Rasa, Audrey Anastasi says, “Working together as artists, off and on over the past 30 years, **Paul** and I have been “sharing models” for figure drawing sessions. We are both skilled at “observational” drawing; that is, capturing how something looks on paper, drawing it directly from life without the use of photographs. What you see on paper is unquestionably the subject matter before us. However, an interesting pattern emerged. Although both of our drawings were recognizable as the individual model, **Paul's** drawings of the female nude showed soft, touchable women, clearly created from a different point of view than mine. As a woman, I was relating to the female form from the inside looking out, resulting in more angular, harder figures, who frequently made direct eye contact with the viewer.

“As a gallerist, presenting **Paul McDonough's** drawings of languid, romanticized female nudes, the question arises whether male-gaze, somewhat erotic depictions of women can legitimately exist in a culture striving for gender equality. Those of us reaching adulthood in the age of sexual revolution took for granted unprecedented personal freedom and open discourse. Politically, we are now getting a glimpse of the power of re-thinking, of how mores evolve, and of how repression can influence the way we experience art. The works are unabashedly sexual, but far less “sexualized” in intent than, for instance, a phantasmagorical Lisa Yuskavage painting of a female nude with wildly exaggerated breasts. Yet, **Paul's** nudes are not coolly detached or clinical academic studies. His work is created of the moment, directly observed and devoid of agenda. Undeniably, the pencil marks and ink lines in **McDonough's** drawings are as beautifully drawn and as sensual as the subjects themselves that he portrays.”

ABOUT Paul McDonough and “In the Studio”

Born in Portsmouth, NH, Paul McDonough was trained as an artist, studying drawing and painting with Nathan Goldstein at the New England School of Art in Boston. He was always attracted to the subject of the female nude, a time-honored tradition in Western art. When he moved to New York City in the late 1960's, he literally stepped out of the studio and into the street where he photographed, not painted, the great, theatrical pageant of urban life. He also photographed nudes in the 1960's and 1970's, sporadically returning to the subject over the next few decades. But it wasn't until 2004 when he built a studio above the top floor of his Brooklyn row house that his interest in the nude truly blossomed. He was able to blend his love of strong light with staged backgrounds that included references to his personal life, art history and fashion. Rather than being ancillary to the figures, the backdrops began to assume center stage, strong characters in their own right. The role of the nude evolved in the work from being the subject within a space to being a subject within a subject—the studio and the myriad objects that populated it. McDonough continues to draw these models in pen, pencil and charcoal, never fully letting go of his past training as a painter. The work contained in this volume shows an artist in full command of his many gifts; by now, it only seems natural that the studio has become his canvas and his world.

McDonough has been the recipient of grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guggenheim Foundation and the Pollock Krasner Foundation. His work is in a number of public and private collections including, the Museum of Modern Art, the New York Public Library, the DeCordova Museum, the Dreyfus Corporation, the Lila Acheson Wallace Print Collection and the Joseph Seagram's Collection. He is represented by the Sasha Wolf Gallery in New York and the Joseph Bellows Gallery in La Jolla. This is the first public exhibition of his drawings.

ABOUT Carl Gunhouse

Currently based in Brooklyn, NY, Boston native Carl Gunhouse has been part of the hardcore scene since the '90s. A photographer by trade, his work has exhibited in such places as Photoville, Spring Break Art Show, the Center for Photography at Woodstock, the Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Modern Art, and all over the globe. The Yale graduate has also been featured in outlets like *The New York Times*, *Vice*, and *Maximum Rockroll*. Carl is a co-founder and director of [Transmitter](#) gallery, and co-director of [Waal-boght Press](#). Located in Brooklyn, New York, Waal-Boght Press is run by Gunhouse and Jason John Würm. Their focus is on photography that engages with the world around us and they publish small edition books biennially.

INFO:

FINE LINES art exhibition and book signing opens Saturday, October 6, 2018, with a reception from 3:00 until 5:00 pm at Tabla Rasa Gallery, located at 224 48 Street, between 2nd and 3rd Avenues in Brooklyn, NY. The show continues through Saturday, October 27. Tabla Rasa Gallery is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Call 718.833.9100 for additional hours, events and schedule updates.

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Directions to Tabla Rasa Gallery

The gallery is located two express subway stops from Manhattan on the "D" or "N" train to 36th Street Station, plus one "R" stop to 45th Street (or a just few short "R" stops beyond Park Slope).

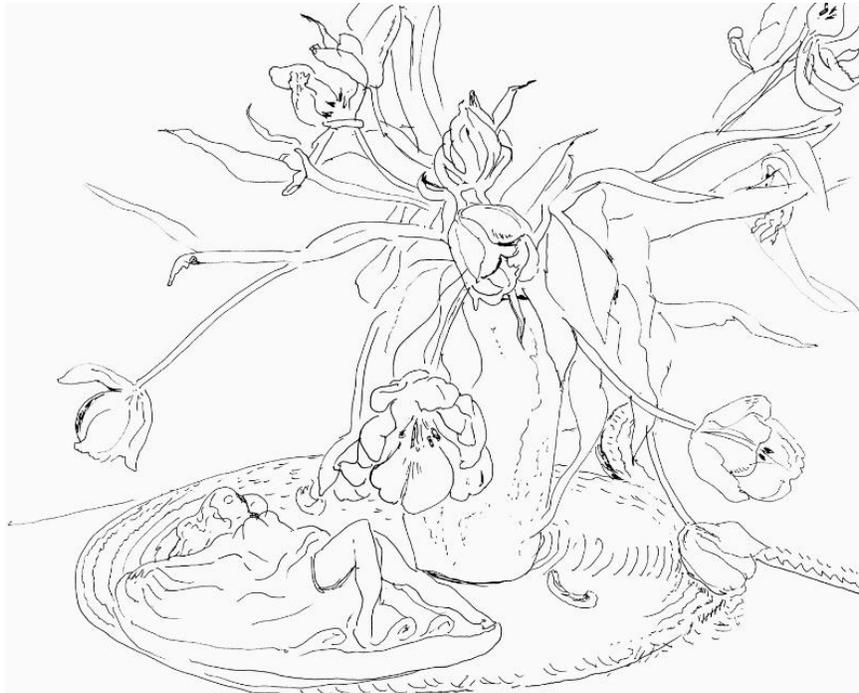
By car, Tabla Rasa is on 48th St between 2nd and 3rd Aves, Brooklyn. Ample street parking is available.

About Tabla Rasa Gallery

Tabla Rasa Gallery is located in the burgeoning art destination of Sunset Park, Brooklyn. The gallery is known for their consistently stunning exhibitions. Within the 4000 square foot turn of the century carriage house, the gallery exhibits primary and secondary market artwork by emerging, mid-career, and established artists, in all media, including painting, sculpture, installation, drawing, print media, digital, film and video.

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Exhibitions are free and open to the public. It is recommended to call 718.833.9100 for events and schedule updates.



Still Life with Ashtray and Tulips, Ink drawing