

COLUMN

Broader Horizons

A Painting Exhibition by Aline Jansen

By Marguerite Gil
(megs@gate.net)

Abstract paintings demand attention. Much like the Rorschach inkblots, each person viewing the works will most probably see something different. Something that they can relate to...or not. Artist **Aline Jansen** understood that concept when she created her latest series entitled *Broader Horizons*. She took into consideration, that her pictures would embrace some viewers and puzzle others. And that's fine with her. I admit, I saw landscapes in Jansen's works and I enjoyed them. My friend Jacklyn B. (Damien B. Contemporary Art Center) saw a multitude of doorways that were unending and gave way to depth, on a two-dimensional surface. Director of the Alliance Francaise Gallery, **Philippe Timon** just found beauty in the colors that the artist had chosen.

The artist herself had a selection of descriptions of her own works which included a geographical overview connected to Euclidean and non-Euclidean spaces. In fact, she remarked, that as she shared that information with me, satellites that transverse the globe from miles above, were scanning and digitizing the outer crust of the planet. Viewing from afar in order to get a closer look, if you will.

So let me bring you back to earth and say that she seems to be searching for ways to interpret her dreamscapes with paints and forms and share them with you.

Jansen uses a spectrum of techniques in her works. Pigments of course, but also glue, cements, cloths which she layers and more trivial materials such as strips of cardboard. Her travels into her paintings take her through sandy beaches as well as tumultuous earthquakes and disruptive landslides. There are mounds and valleys on



Art lover checks out the paintings at the Aline Jansen Opening Night Reception. Artist Aline Jansen at her exhibition "Broader Horizons".
Photos: M.Gil

her canvases and diverse spatial compositions. There are also violent eruptions and mellow expansive waves. The colors are mostly ochres and a variety of greys or grays...depending on your preferences.

I think Rorschach would have enjoyed interpreting *Broader Horizons*. He might have concluded that her paintings "are indicative of an obsessive personality, with multi-dimensional sensitivity and extra-terrestrial concepts." I concur.

Alliance Francaise, 618 SW 8th Street, (Calle Ocho), Miami. Details: 305.573.4949.

The exhibition runs through May 6, 2009.