

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Above Ground: Lucky DeBellevue, Blaise Drummond, Karen Kimmel in collaboration with Creative Growth, Aida Klein, Robert Mellor****June 9 – July 29, 2006**

Mary Goldman Gallery is pleased to announce *Above Ground*, an exhibition of new works by Lucky DeBellevue, Blaise Drummond, Karen Kimmel, Aida Klein and Robert Mellor on view from June 9 through July 29, 2006. An opening reception for the artists will be held on Friday June 9, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

In the extreme heat of summer, the ground swelters and our sensitivity to the escalated climate magnifies. Although the works in *Above Ground* are diverse, they heighten one's awareness of both physical and emotional relationships to natural environments. Aida Klein's watercolors, inspired by family snapshots, capture summer vacation vistas from an age when memory is more the result of photographic documentation than recollection. Blaise Drummond's collage and painted canvases take as their subject bucolic settings and architecture, such as Black Mountain College, a place associated with the germination of artists whose influences reverberate to present-day. Lucky DeBellevue's painting and sculptures of abstract interweaving forms are evocative of organic structures that suggest the essence and commonality of living matter. Karen Kimmel's residency at Creative Growth resulted in intricate interactive visual systems that include a number of botanically inspired abstractions in the form of rugs and mixed media works. Robert Mellor's lush paintings introduce patterns and textures, which invoke organic, ornate, abstract and decorative wonderlands. Taken as a whole, the exhibition presents an excursion through terrains of remembrance and open space.

Lucky DeBellevue is based in New York and has recently exhibited at Feature Inc, New York and will exhibit this summer at Museum Ludwig, Cologne. Blaise Drummond lives in Ireland and created a solo exhibition at the Musée de l'Abbaye Sainte Croix and Rubicon Gallery, Dublin. LA artist Karen Kimmel has recently performed at Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions. These works were made with Creative Growth Art Center, which enables artists with disabilities to create exhibitions and collaborate with visiting artists. Aida Klein recently graduated from Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles. This is her first gallery exhibition. Robert Mellor is based in Virginia and has recently exhibited at the Santa Monica Museum of Art and Irvine Contemporary, Washington D.C.

Mary Goldman Gallery is located at 932 Chung King Road in the Chinatown district of Los Angeles. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. or by appointment. For further information, please contact the gallery at 213 617 8217 or email info@marygoldman.com. Visit www.marygoldman.com for more information.