**JUST A RUMOR**

*A new work involving a pond, a face, and wild ducks*

**ANNA SCHULEIT**

Commissioned by the University Gallery, Fine Arts Center, UMass Amherst

Painted on the concrete façade of the Fine Arts Center at UMass Amherst, *Just a Rumor* is a three-story-high, upside-down portrait of a face. When the portrait’s reflection is viewed on the surface of the adjacent campus pond, the image is inverted, producing a double portrait: the upside-down original and the right side up reflection. The painting measures approximately 40 x 45 feet (nearly 1800 square feet) and is executed in acrylic paint.

For this project Schuleit selected an outdoor location where the enormous, windowless Fine Arts Center meets the campus pond, enabling a low-tech “projection” of the painted face to be generated by nature alone — without the use of electronic devices. The face reflected in the water changes constantly throughout the day and into the night.
Project Notes

- on the scale of the building the painting is abstract. Add the aspect of upside-down-ness and it gets more abstract.

- using big brushes to fit the scale and surprised by how even the single marks of the small ones have weight and presence in the whole.

- shrunken nose, fleshy face. Ear: needs more definition.

- tough shave: some stubble adds mystery.

- still cool: old-fashioned type, good face but eyes affected.
How much paint? 15 gallons, roughly.

**NOTION OF NEAR + FAR**: detail and whole.

It was a humbling process — making me feel small and slow against the larger, wider context of the work — the huge expanse of wall — in its outdoor setting.

And then there is Narcissus...
Anna Schuleit

THE MASSACHUSETTS REVIEW

Indirect gate

a woman house

tight-lipped

Glasses: reminiscent of the 1950's?

Why mystery? Too conventional? Maybe

holy forehand... squinted eyes... West Gate!!

Huge... great tears!

bending over and half funny half haggard

= make nose fleshy

Ed farmer? ... we'll..."Mass..."
JUST A RUMOR, in progress, 2010

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