

# Fine Art Connoisseur

*The Premier Magazine  
for Informed Collectors*

Volume 9, Issue 3, June 2012

## Contemporary Masterworks on View Nationwide

*By Kelly Compton*

In New Orleans through July 1, Tulane University's Newcomb Art Gallery is presenting *All Is Not Lost*, an exhibition highlighting two major series of work by the artist Patricia Cronin (b. 1963). Born in Beverly, Massachusetts, Cronin earned a BFA from Rhode Island College and then an MFA from Brooklyn College, where she now teaches.

Quite unforgettable is Cronin's sculpture, *Memorial to a Marriage* (2002). Originally carved in Carrara marble in the form of a 19th-century mortuary monument, its over-life-size figures depict Cronin and her partner, the artist Deborah Kass, sleeping in a tender embrace that imagines in death their marriage, which, until recently, was illegal in life.

Also here will be Cronin's project, *Harriet Hosmer: Lost and Found*. Dismayed by others' lack of interest, and empowered by a fellowship at the American Academy in Rome, Cronin spent five years researching the American sculptor Harriet Hosmer (1830-1908). This remarkable woman defied society's expectations by moving to Rome in 1852 and thriving there among a community of British and American artists and writers, especially women. In 2009, the Milanese firm Charta published Cronin's catalogue raisonné of Hosmer's 40 known works, mostly neoclassical carvings in marble of Zenobia, Medusa, Puck, and other worthy subjects. In that publication, each of Hosmer's works is represented by a watercolor painted by Cronin. Particularly fascinating are the "ghosts"—ethereal images of the Hosmer sculptures that were made but never photographed, ones which apparently exist somewhere in the world unrecognized.

Also on view in New Orleans through June 30 is Arthur Roger Gallery's smaller selling exhibition of Cronin's recent work. This includes a new bronze version of *Memorial to a Marriage* that is nearly life-size.

Information: Woldenberg Art Center, New Orleans, LA 70118, 504.865.5328, [newcombartgallery.tulane.edu](http://newcombartgallery.tulane.edu); Arthur Roger Gallery, 432 Julia Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, 504.528.2609, [arthurrogergallery.com](http://arthurrogergallery.com)  
Patricia Cronin (b. 1963)



*Memorial to a Marriage*  
2000-2002, Carrara marble, 27 x 47 x 84 in.  
On view at Newcomb Art Gallery, New Orleans