

**PARSE**

134 Carondelet Street  
New Orleans, LA 70130  
262-60-PARSE

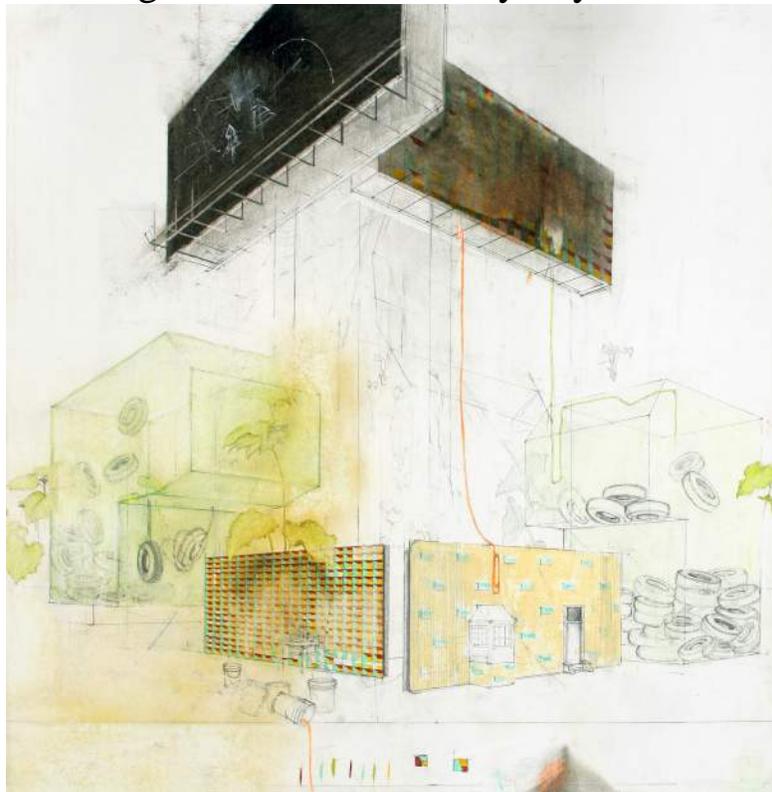
CONTACT: [parsegallery@gmail.com](mailto:parsegallery@gmail.com)  
WEBSITE: [parsenola.com](http://parsenola.com)  
HOURS: 12-5pm Friday & Saturday  
and by appointment.

# PARSE

presents

## *Raw Material*

Drawings and Installations by Alyssa Dennis



*Home School*, 2011. Graphite, ground pigment, colored pencil. 20 x 19 ½ in. Courtesy the artist.

PARSE (previously Parse Gallery) is pleased to announce a new direction for the gallery space located in a three-story, late 19<sup>th</sup> century building at 134 Carondelet Street in New Orleans' Central Business District. Co-directors Ricardo Barba and Amy Mackie are launching a curator-centric program this fall inaugurated by a solo exhibition of the work of New York-based artist Alyssa Dennis, curated by Mackie. Invited curators will organize future exhibitions and events in conjunction with PARSE.

Reflecting on the history of Parse Gallery and its embrace of architecturally motivated immersive environments and experiential sculptural installations, PARSE presents *Raw Material*. Drawings and installations by Dennis included in *Raw Material* (October 18<sup>th</sup> – December 15<sup>th</sup>) are inspired by sustainable building projects and eco-architecture initiatives such as The Phoenix Commotion, The Kevin Rohan Memorial Eco Foundation (KRMEF), and Earthship Biitecture. According to Dennis, “by using the visual representation of constructed space, I work to assemble hybridized situations of manmade elements and non-manmade elements, which also actively manipulate time and space based on their

cultural connotations.” In intricately composed drawings, she simultaneously layers and exposes multifarious environments and scenarios that speak not only to the pressing concerns of sustainable architecture, but to the precarious nature of our constructed reality.

The exhibition opens on the first floor of PARSE on Friday October 18, 2013, with a reception from 7 to 10pm in conjunction with The Drop (featuring work by Abdi Farah, Sophie T. Lvoff, and Bob Snead) on the third floor and the Hand-in-Glove conference in New Orleans. A collaborative sculpture/curatorial office constructed by Alyssa Dennis and Ricardo Barba will also be on view.

### **About the Artist**

Alyssa Dennis (b. 1980, Springfield, MA) is an artist whose work is rooted in the concepts and issues of the built environment. She has exhibited nationally and internationally and at art fairs including Pulse in Los Angeles and Miami. Dennis is the recipient of multiple grants and awards including a nomination for the Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant and a Tulane University Summer Fellowship in 2010. Her work has garnered critical attention in various magazines including *Architect Magazine* and *Urbanite Magazine* amongst others. She has completed numerous residencies including Oxbow at the Art Institute of Chicago in Michigan, Parse Gallery in New Orleans, and Lobot Gallery in Oakland. She holds an M.F.A. from Tulane University and a B.F.A. from the Maryland Institute College of Art. Dennis is represented by Kesting/Ray Gallery in New York and Ellen Miller Gallery in Boston. Her work resides in the collection of the 2008 Olympic metal winner Michael Phelps and the Microsoft Art Collection. She currently lives and works in New York.

alyssadennis.com  
thedropnola.com  
hand-in-glove.org

---

### **Mission**

PARSE is a storefront gallery and curatorial residency in New Orleans’ Central Business District that serves as a platform for critical dialog about contemporary art. This program hosts three to four visiting curators in New Orleans annually. During extended stays in the city, curators are encouraged to engage in studio visits with local artists, conduct research in the area, and utilize the PARSE facilities to experiment with the boundaries and possibilities of curatorial practice.

### **About**

Amy Mackie is a nomadic curator and writer based in New Orleans. She curated numerous exhibitions as the director of visual arts at the Contemporary Arts Center in New Orleans from 2011 to 2012 and as the curatorial associate at the New Museum in New York from 2007 to 2010. Mackie was the recipient of a 2013 Curatorial Fellowship from the Stavanger Municipality Culture Department in Norway, a 2010 Research Fellowship at the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds, England, and a 2009 CEC Artslink Grant to produce a project in Sofia, Bulgaria. She has lectured at Bard College, Brooklyn College, the College of Charleston, and Yale University, and has written for *Art in America*, *Art Papers*, *FANTOM Photographic Quarterly*, *Pelican Bomb*, *Universes in Universe*, and numerous exhibition catalogs and publications. She is currently organizing “It Could Go Either Way: Mariam Ghani + Erin Ellen Kelly,” which will be presented at Rogaland Kunstsenter in the spring of 2014. She is also working on a book that traces the evolution of the artist-run spaces and alternative arts organizations and publications in New Orleans from 2005 to the present. Mackie holds an M.A. in curatorial studies from the Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College and a B.A. in liberal arts from Sarah Lawrence College.

Ricardo Barba is an artist and cultural producer based in New Orleans. From 2011 to 2013, along with Margot Walsh, he presented exhibitions and programs at Parse Gallery focusing primarily on built environments and performative spaces. He facilitated numerous site-specific projects and arts initiatives from 2001 to 2004 in various locales throughout Chicago. Barba holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Chicago.