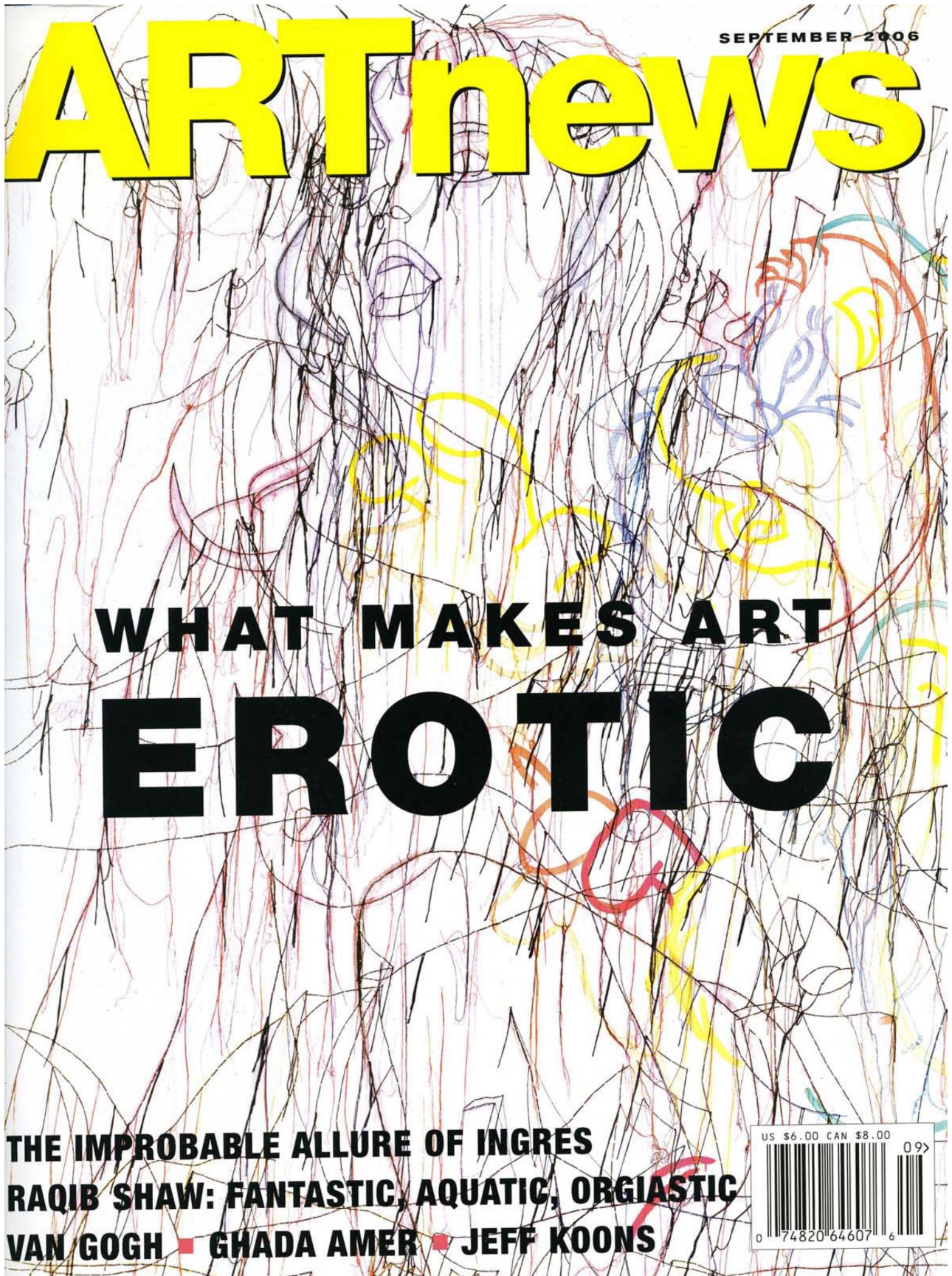


RICHARD GRAY GALLERY



SEPTEMBER 2006

ARTnews

WHAT MAKES ART EROTIC

THE IMPROBABLE ALLURE OF INGRES
RAQIB SHAW: FANTASTIC, AQUATIC, ORGIASTIC
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Susan Caporael

Richard Gray

Chicago

For this exhibition, "Time," Susan Caporael presented a recent collection of interiors, landscapes, and portraits. The



**Susan Caporael, 474 (big store), 2005,
oil on linen, 84" x 60".**

Richard Gray.

works captured the physical world transformed by the act of remembering. Scenes from daily life were translated into gray, broken segments of paint, some details lost, others sharpened, to emulate the spasmodic and surreal qualities of memory.

The subjects are familiar: a wall of shelves laden with books, open fields stretching into the distance, an urban sidewalk filled with busy people, and a quiet rural road. *496 (red baby—myself)*, 2005, depicts the artist as she appeared, or might have, some 50 years ago. The painting records a red-faced baby hollering vigorously, eyes squinted shut. An orderly row of bubbles stands out on her tongue. The arrested motion imparts a snapshot quality, and Caporael's pixilated surface refers, on another level, to photography—the means by which we retrieve the past we cannot remember.

In *474 (big store)*, 2005, Caporael depicts a reflection in a store window. The artist shows both what is inside the building as well as what is on the street. The glass panel between the two worlds collapses the view and the reflection into a jumble of fragmentary images.

—Margaret Hawkins