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### Mission Statement:

Manifest enhances the role of art and design in society by cultivating and focusing the transformative power of creativity in the visual arts. Manifest benefits people in the global and local community, including professionals, students, and the public, by creating quality-centered experiences focused on contemporary visual arts and related activities in the context of creative exploration.

### MANIFEST

vol 16



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### MANIFEST VOLUME SIXTEEN

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Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center 2727 Woodburn Avenue, P.O. Box 6218, Cincinnati, OH 45206 (513) 861-3638

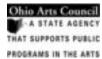
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Scott Robertson, *Open Wheel Car*; Daniel O'Connor, *We Are Tentmakers By Trade* 

Support provided by:

















Whimsical Muse

The Drawthrough Collection

by Scott Robertson



Whimsical Muse

for Alexandra...

Margot Cormier Splane

Christine Marie Davis

Wendy DesChene

Beth Edwards

**Rhonda Gushee** 

**Shane Harris** 

Stacey Holloway

Charlie Kearns

**Ruth Marks** 

Gabrielle Mayer

Daniel O'Connor

Wynter Whiteside





Art and design are vehicles for bold social commentary, political activism, and deep personal philosophy. But creative visual works can also provide for levity, playfulness, and innocent joy. The ancient Greek idea of catharsis involved both tragedy AND comedy. Therefore with *Whimsical Muse* Manifest Gallery presents a collection of works that embody the lighter side of creativity.

The international call for entries for *Whimsical Muse* resulted in over 180 submissions from 18 states and 2 Canadian provinces.

The fourteen works presented here represent the impressive consistency of Manifest's jury and curatorial process which somehow always manages to boil innumerable exhibit possibilities down to one very cohesive and surprisingly interrelated collection of excellent works.

Whimsical Muse is delightful indeed. Charlie Kearns's video piece offers a narrative glimpse into a young boy's afternoon, which could be the events leading up to a visit to the exhibit itself. Stacey Holloway's mechanical doll Sally chases a firefly around the gallery in an endless and bittersweet circle. Joining Sally are the characters in works by Beth Edwards and Ruth Marks who, although motionless appear to be animated by the primal and innocent existence with which they have been endowed. Toy-like works by Rhonda Gushee, Wendy DesChene, and Shane Harris lend a purpose to the excitement. And Wynter Whiteside's large pair of centerpiece cakes, along with Daniel O'Connor's patchwork pup tent and Gabrielle Mayer's unmistakable icon of childhood frivolity, round out the festive context, setting the stage for wild things to happen. With Margot Cormier Splane's zoological scenarios, and Christine Marie Davis's surrealistic furry desserts, the world of Whimsical Muse is complete, and completely untamed.

**Jason Franz** 

# Margot Cormier Splane timmins, ontario, canada

Black and White Tourists Visit Egypt hand pulled serigraph, 12"x18.75", 2006





# Margot Cormier Splane timmins, ontario, canada

There is Something I Don't Like About the New Sheepdog

hand pulled serigraph, 9"x18.5", 2005





# Christine Marie Davis howard, colorado

Dessert Fetish

found objects and fur, 12"x60"x5", 2004







## Wendy DesChene auburn, alabama

WYSIWYG'S WORLD 3 digital photograph, 18"x24", 2005



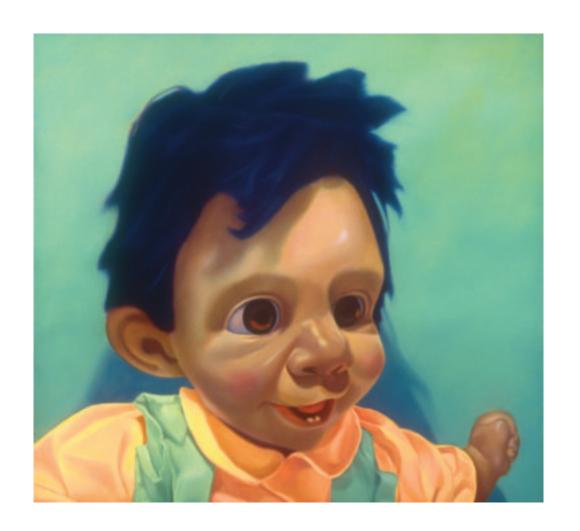




The Happy Wanderer

oil on canvas, 22"x24", 2005





### Doll House I

basswood, stitched leather, battery-operated interactive talking toys, 68"x25"x14", 2006





### Untitled

mixed media, 5"x5"x3", 2006





## Sally Chases Fireflies

cast bronze, steel, and mixed media 24"x12"x27", 2006





Cutting the Rug (video still), video, 10 min, 2006





### Antler Bust

paper clay and acrylic, 7"x7"x14", 2006





## Gabrielle Mayer Iouisville, kentucky

### Clown Head

oil on canvas, 32"x32"x4", 2006





## **Daniel O'Connor** ft. wright, kentucky

We Are Tentmakers By Trade watercolor on paper, 30"x23", 2006





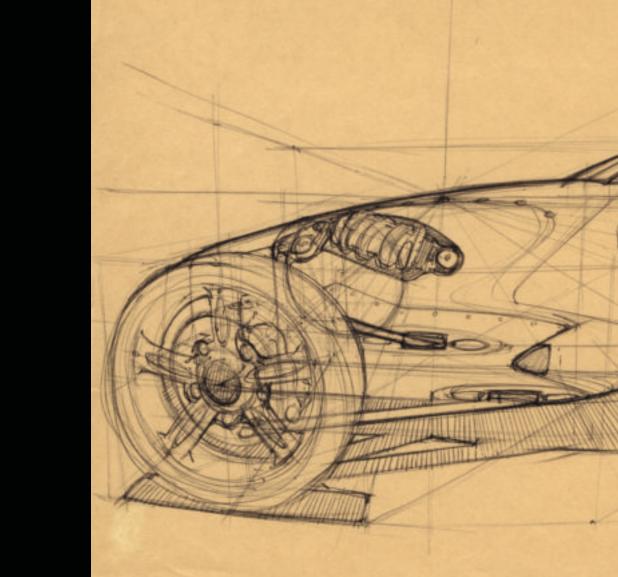
## Twin Cakes I and II

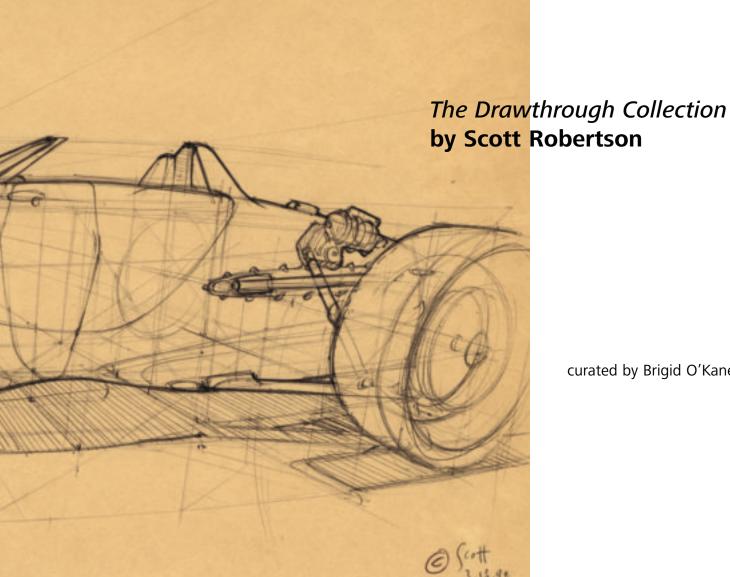
oil, swarvorski crystal, colored pencil, glitter, marker on raw canvas, ea.60"x36", 2005











curated by Brigid O'Kane

Scott Robertson is a notable Los Angeles based concept designer who has taught at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California since 1995, and Art Center Europe in Switzerland for nearly two years. He is the founder of Design Studio Press, which has a mission of design, drawing, and rendering education. Robertson also currently works as a design consultant for the entertainment, sporting goods, and transportation industry with a past client list that includes Mattel Toys, Nike, Universal Studios, Fiat, and the feature film *The Minority Report*.

Manifest presents this exhibit in fulfillment of its Drawing Center mission whereby that fundamental discipline is promoted, featured, and explored, and to serve as a resource for those interested in a career in the creative visual arts. The display of these drawings and the accompanying lecture gives artists and designers a rare opportunity to learn from one of the very best concept designers and teachers working in the field today. With this, Manifest offers a chance to learn about different approaches to drawing as well as the objectives that can be achieved through the practice of this art form.

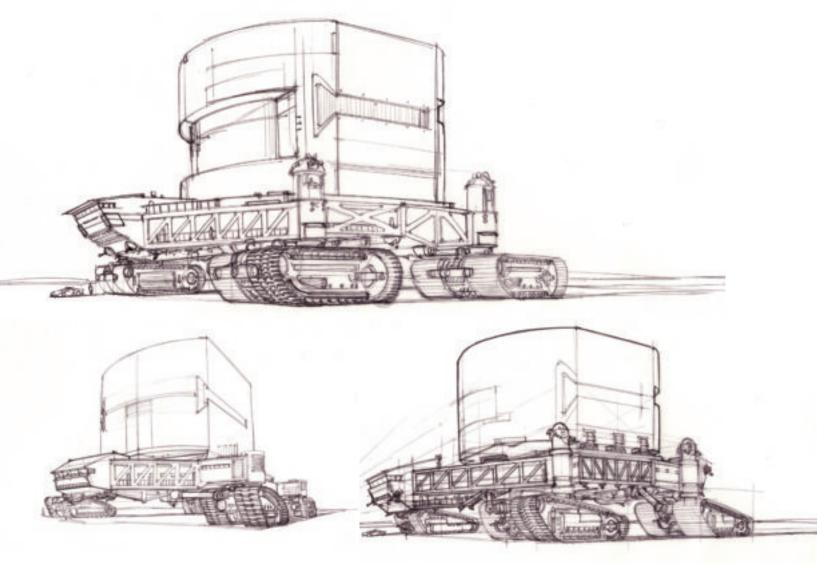
Robertson's drawings are a marvel of precision and accurate freehand technical drawing, yet at the same time they are creative intuitive expressions of design concepts. The contrast between the technical and intuitive is just one of the features that makes these drawings so attractive and compelling. This selection of drawings demonstrates an applied skill, which is fun and imaginative while at the same time purposeful, directed, and descriptive.

Drawing is one of the most valuable skills a designer or artist can develop as a means of visual communication. The drawing process is the most direct way to research, develop, communicate, and present design concepts. For the creative individual drawing advances a focused visual discipline, and broadens the understanding of form, volume, and the aesthetic qualities of three-dimensional forms depicted on a two-dimensional surface.

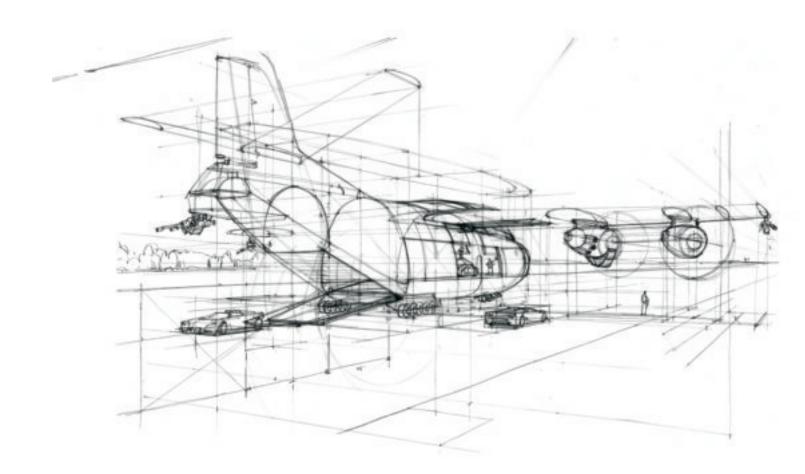
The Drawthrough Collection by Scott Robertson presents several kinds of drawn design approaches, including fast and intuitive gesture sketches, side-view concept drawings, and extreme perspectives. Thus the exhibit spans the spectrum of drawing applied to the design process.

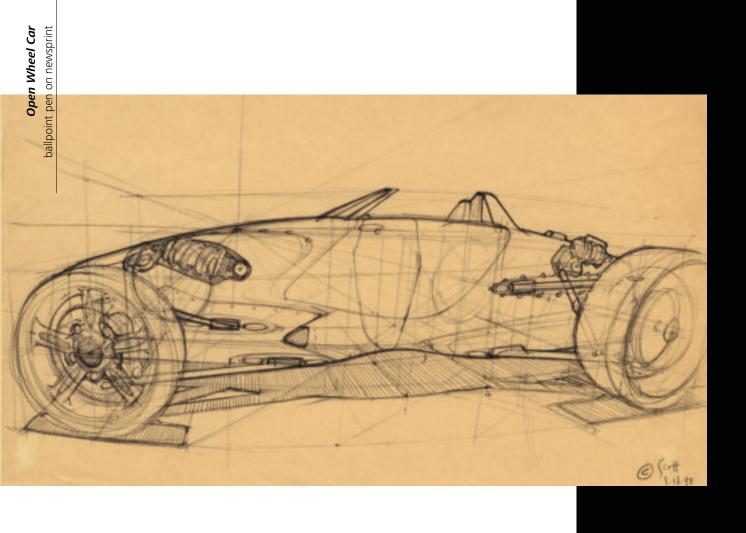
## **Brigid O'Kane**

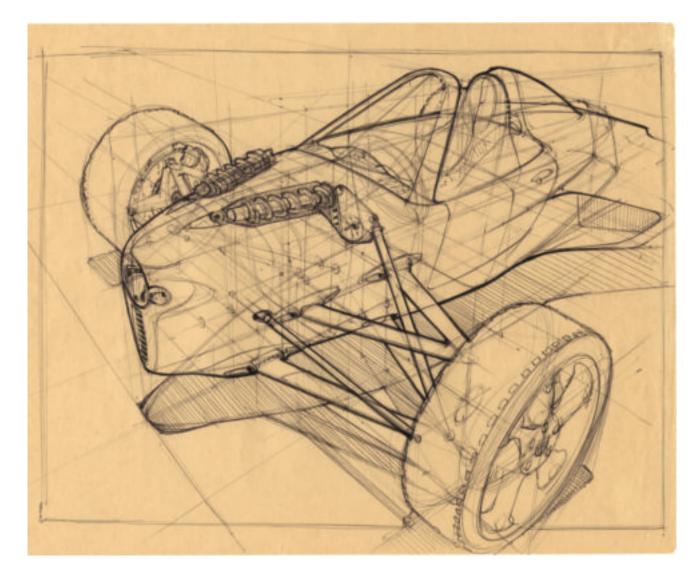


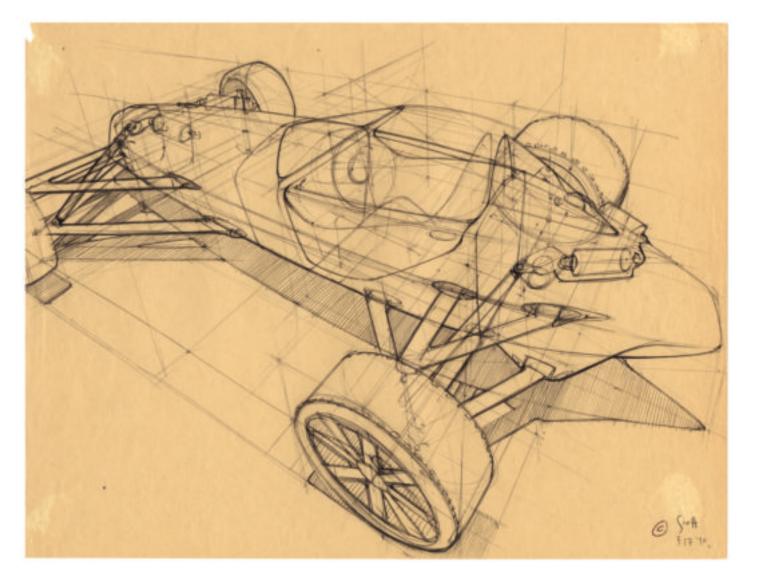


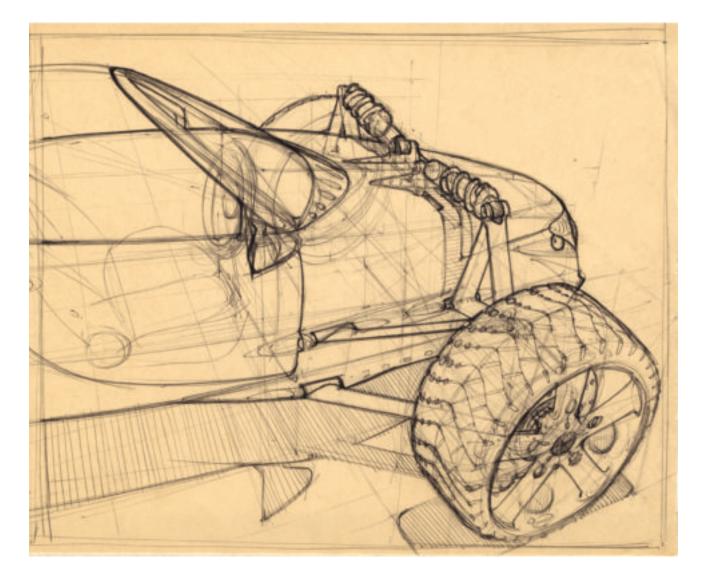
## **Cargo Plane** ballpoint pen on tracing paper

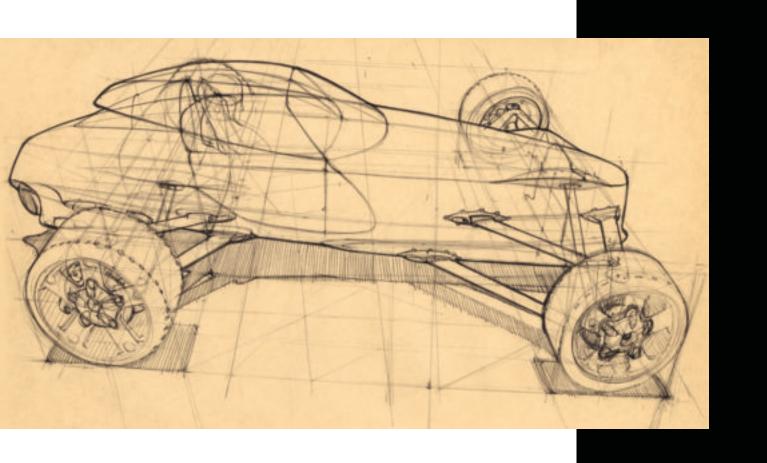


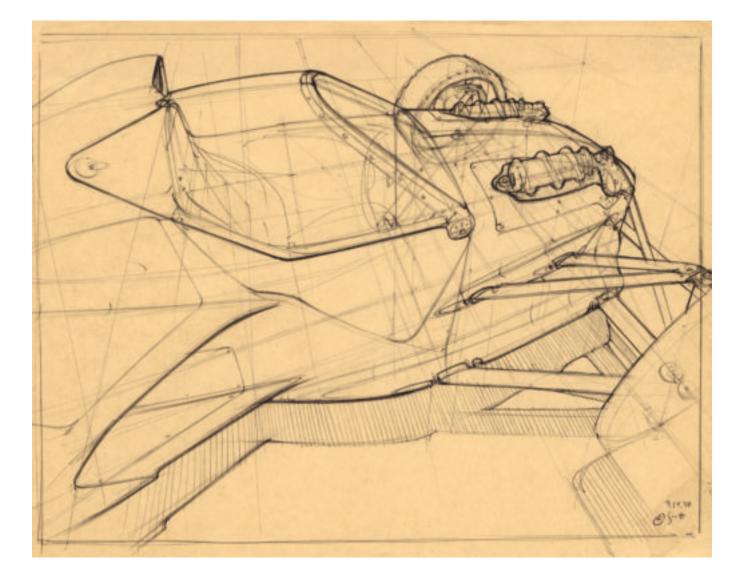


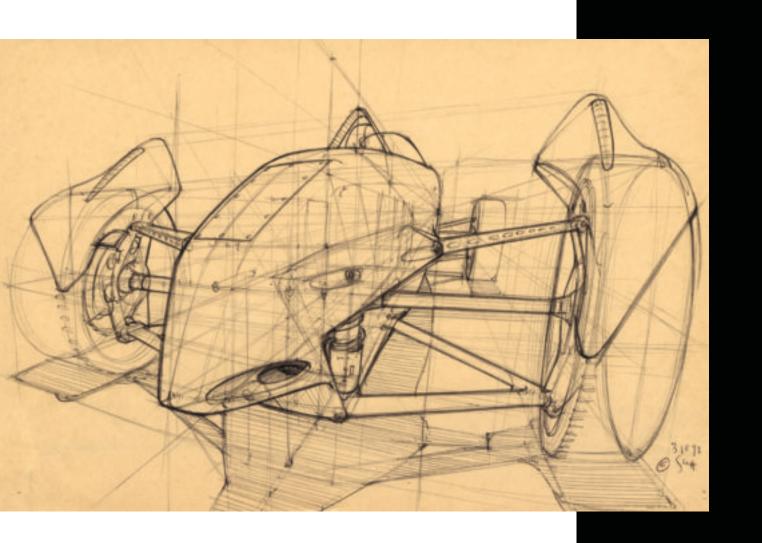


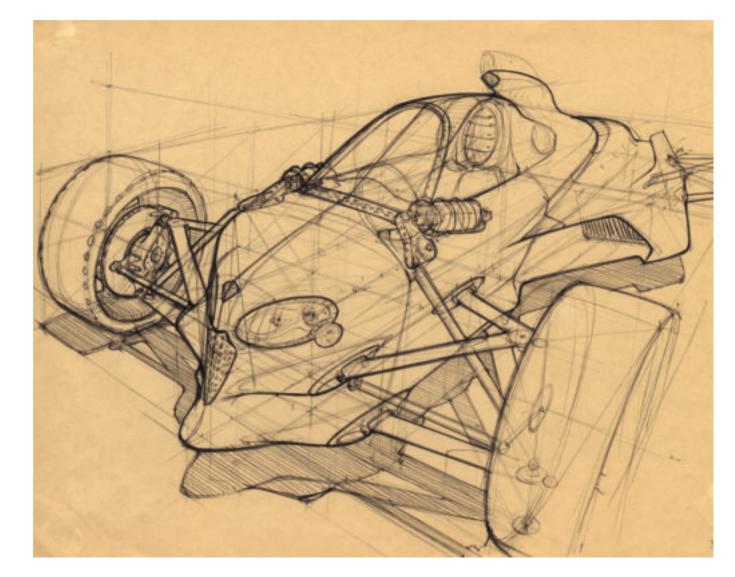




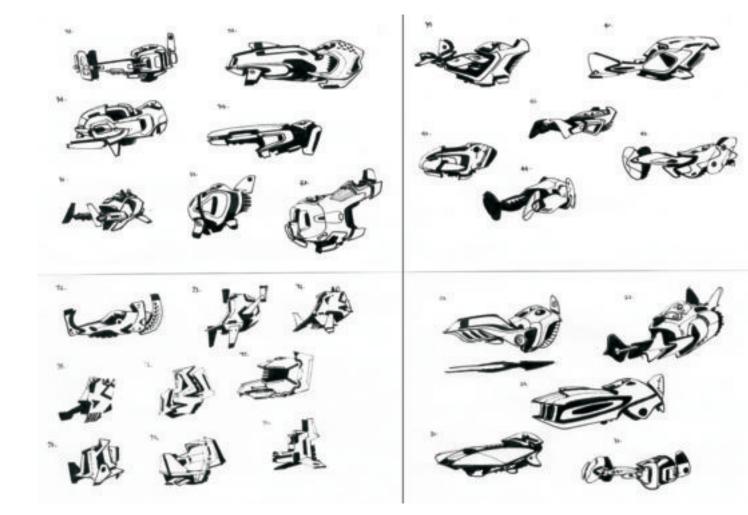


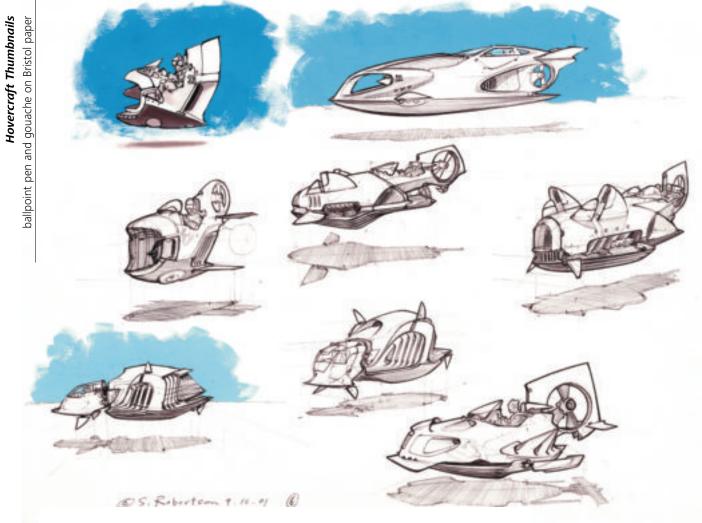


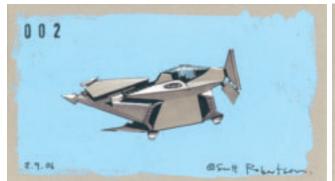






















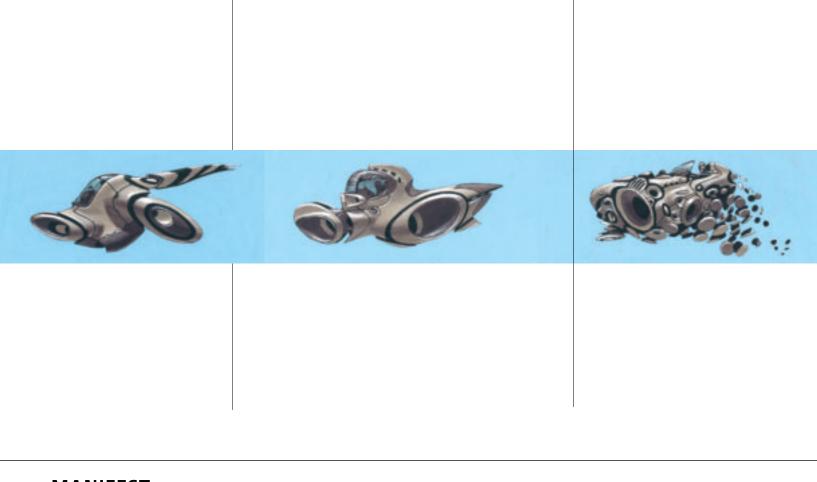
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## MANIFEST CREATIVE RESEARCH GALLERY AND DRAWING CENTER