

KICKASS REVIEW

A JOURNAL OF ART & LITERATURE Volume VI Number1

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Front cover artwork Claude Smith Blues for the Night Sky, Acrylic on canvas

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Claude Smith

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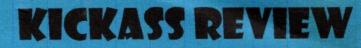
Acrylic on wood panel 30x48

ART WORK—Claude Smith: Getting Back to Basics by Bouvard Pécuchet

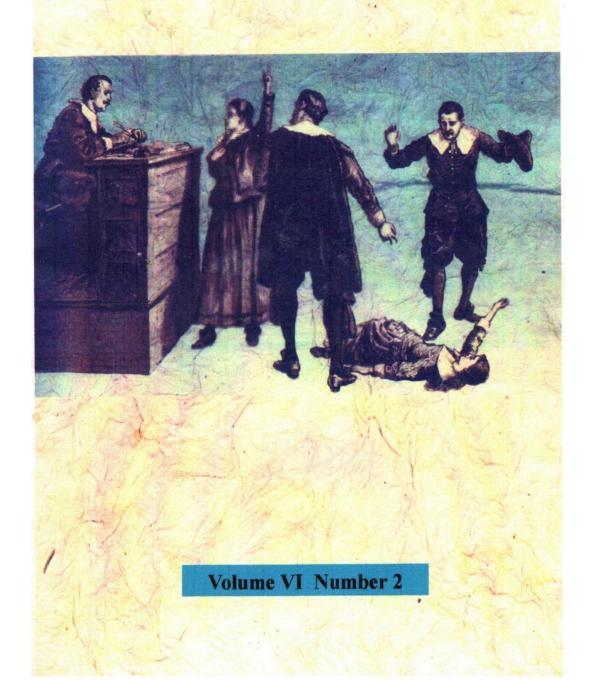
As a child, Picasso could paint like Raphael, but he claimed that it took him the rest of his life to learn to paint like a child. To paint from the heart. Without pretense and contrivances.

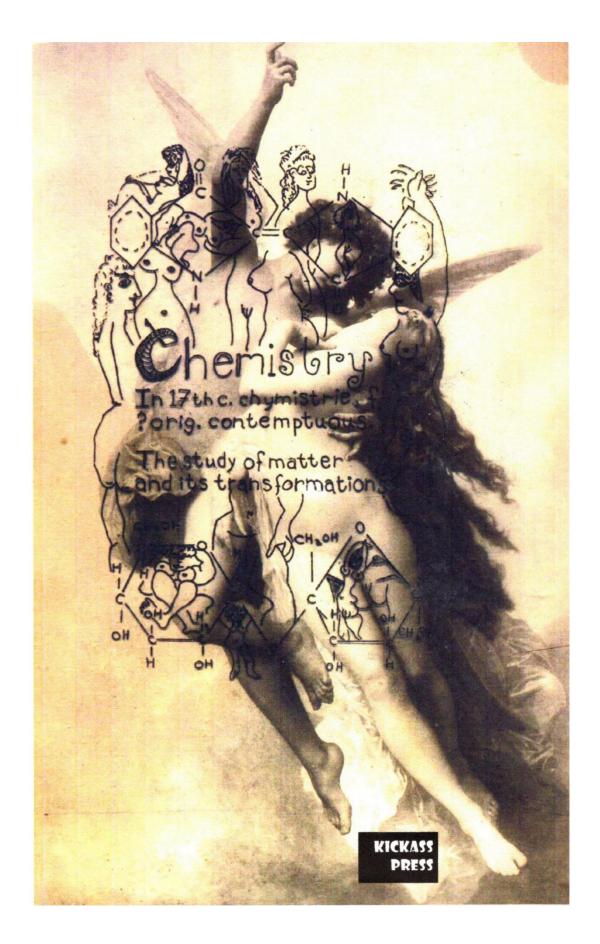
Claude Smith is such a painter. He recently created a show for Zebulon's Lounge in Petaluma, California. Zebulon's is a jazz club. An intimate environment. The setting was a challenge with its dim lighting and textured, ochre-colored walls, but Claude knew the paintings were going to be part of a multileveled experience because the musicians playing jazz in this spot inspired the paintings. On many nights he could be seen sketching while they blew. In making the transition from small-scale black and white drawings to larger paintings he knew there was a need to be bold, and incorporate high contrast form with very vivid colors to jump off those walls.

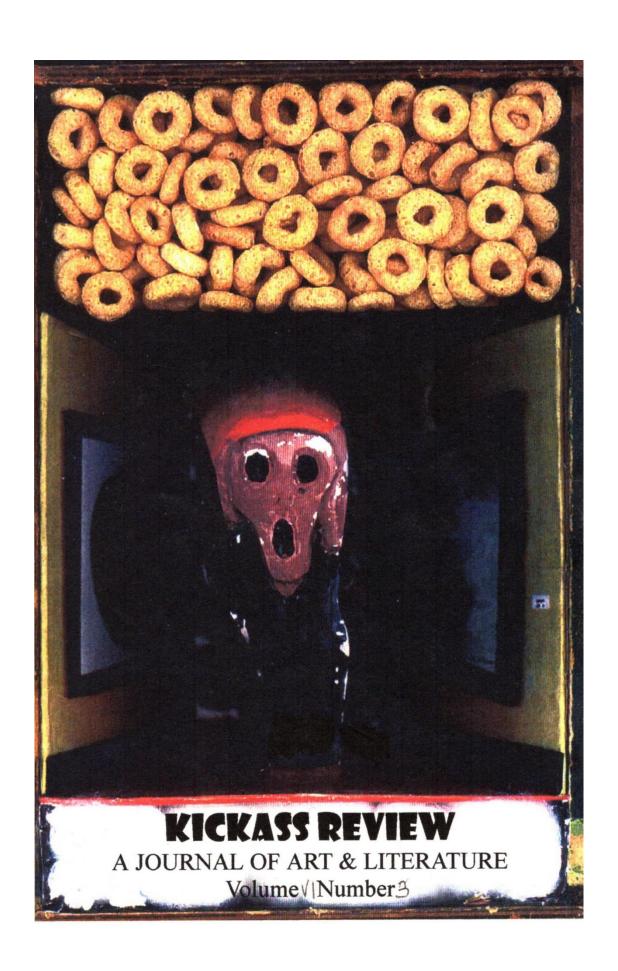
"The venue was a complete experience," says

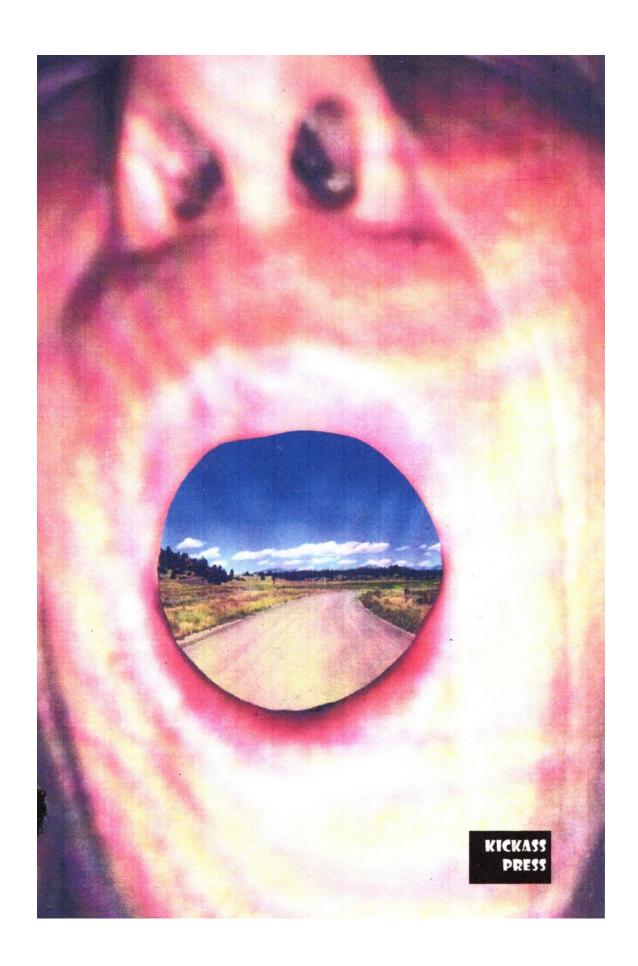


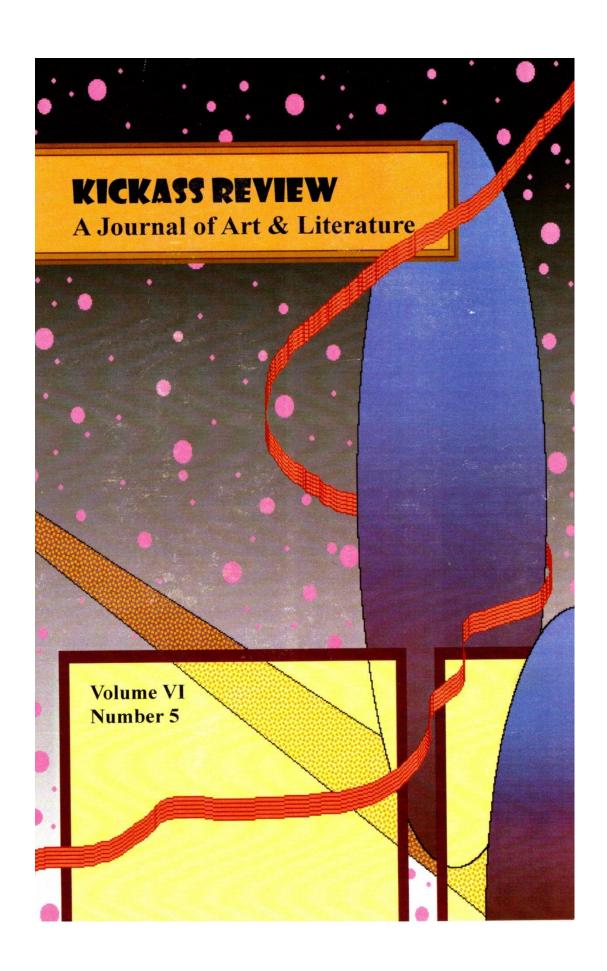
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