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**For Immediate Release
Upcoming Exhibition**



Matt Barton, *The Affects of the Effects of Gravity*, 2008, video and mixed media

NEW FACULTY

MATT BARTON AND COREY DRIETH

Exhibition Dates: June 20 - August 7, 2008

Opening Reception: Friday, June 20, 2008

Supporter Reception: 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Public Reception: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Location: Gallery of Contemporary, UCCS

Tags: Contemporary Art, Artist, Matt Barton, Corey Drieth, video art, painting, opening reception

Colorado Springs, May 30, 2008 – The Gallery of Contemporary Art, UCCS presents ***New Faculty: Matt Barton and Corey Drieth*** opening June 20. The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs hired two new studio art faculty members in 2007: Matt Barton (3D) and Corey Drieth (2D). The Gallery of Contemporary Art will introduce you to the work of these engaging new figures on the Pikes Peak art scene.

Matt Barton graduated with a Bachelors of Fine Art and Bachelors in Art Education from Montana State University and his Masters of Fine Art from Carnegie Mellon University. While growing up southern Indiana, he worked as a performer at Chuck E. Cheese, dancing in a rat suit while a mechanical animal band performed hit songs, such as, "Walkin' on Sunshine." True to his roots at Chuck E. Cheese, Matt's puckish artwork often utilizes motorized, convulsing and gyrating plush and stuffed animals. Video collages are projected on the walls, providing a room-size environment for the activities of the mechanically enhanced woodland creatures.

Barton says, "I want to instill a bit of wonder and questioning in the lightest possible sense. I want to tickle a remote nerve ending in the imagination, stimulate atrophied curiosity, and evoke a small remnant of a childlike spark that recognizes the magic that can exist when we view the world through playful eyes."

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In Corey Drieth's work, paint washes gently over the subtle wood grain of the surface of his panels. Resembling curtains or flowing water, his paintings act as meditative facades. Drieth cites Georgia O'Keefe, Arthur Dove and the minimalist Agnes Martin as influences upon his work suggesting his love of simple, small-scale abstraction. Drieth says of his work, "Inspired by the natural world, art history and religious traditions such as Zen Buddhism and Quaker Christianity, my paintings and drawings explore contemplative spiritual experience. Because [my paintings] require quietude during a time of de-humanizing speed, clutter and noise, they serve as both a foil to the frenetic activity of contemporary life and as a method of sustenance within it."

Corey Drieth was born and raised in Northern Colorado. He attended Colorado State University (CSU) in Fort Collins and received undergraduate degrees in Philosophy/Comparative Religious Studies and Studio Art. He later attended graduate school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he received his MFA with in drawing and painting. Before arriving at UCCS, Drieth taught studio art classes at CSU, the University of North Carolina and the University of Virginia.

BIOS

Matt Barton's work has been exhibited at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, NY, NY; Ex Colonia, Ballabio, Italy; Three Rivers Arts Festival, Pittsburgh, PA; Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, PA; The Bank, Kansas City, MO; Future Tenant, Pittsburgh, PA; and the Camberwell College of Art, London Institute, University of West England, Bristol.

Corey Drieth's paintings have been shown at Second Street Gallery, Charlottesville, VA; Fort Collins Museum of Contemporary Art, Fort Collins, CO; San Francisco Studio School, San Francisco, CA; Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts, Fredericksburg, VA; Art Institute and Gallery, Salisbury, MD; Transom Gallery, Durham, NC; Orpheum Art Space, Albuquerque, NM; and the Ackland Museum of Art, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC.

EVENTS

Opening Reception

Friday, June 20, 2008

Supporter Reception: 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Public Reception: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

The artists Matt Barton and Corey Drieth will be in conversation during the Supporter Reception 5:30-7:00 p.m. with the discussion beginning at 6:00 p.m. At 7:00 p.m. the Gallery will open its doors to the public to enjoy food, drink and world-class art.

BLURBS/RADIO SPOTS

15 Second Spot

The Gallery of Contemporary Art, UCCS features the exhibition ***New Faculty: Matt Barton and Corey Drieth*** (pronounced DRY-TH). The wild multi-media installation art of Matt Barton will be shown along side the quiet, small-scale abstract paintings of Corey Drieth. The exhibition runs June 20 - August 7, 2008 with a public reception June 20th from 7 -9 p.m. For more information call 262-3567 or visit www.galleryuccs.org.

30 Second Spot

The Gallery of Contemporary Art, UCCS features the exhibition ***New Faculty: Matt Barton and Corey Drieth*** (pronounced DRY-TH). The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs hired two new studio art faculty members in 2007: Matt Barton (3D) and Corey Drieth (2D). The Gallery of Contemporary Art will introduce you to the work of these engaging new figures on the Pikes Peak art scene. The wild multi-media installation art of Matt Barton will be shown along side the quiet, small-scale abstract paintings of Corey Drieth. The exhibition runs June 20 - August 7, 2008 with a public reception June 20th from 7 -9 p.m. For more information call 262-3567 or visit www.galleryuccs.org.

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Images are available upon request. Please contact Christopher Lynn (clynn@uccs.edu or gallery@uccs.edu).

LOCATION AND INFORMATION

The Gallery is located in the northwest corner of the Science Building's upper level. Parking is free on Saturdays. Weekdays, please park in the Visitors' Lot or metered spaces. Regular permit parking restrictions will be lifted for Lots 3 & 4 only during the exhibition's opening reception.

The Gallery of Contemporary Art, UCCS is open M-F 10-4 and Sa 1-4. The Gallery is closed on Sundays and regular University holidays.

For additional information concerning our exhibitions, programs, and membership, please call 719.262.3567 or visit our website: www.galleryuccs.org.

Gallery of Contemporary Art
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