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**For Immediate Release  
Upcoming Exhibition**



John McEnroe, *Blue-Green Painting*, 2006, modified latex, 4' x 11' x 4", courtesy of Plus+gallery

## YOUNG MODERNS

SARAH BRAMAN, TODD CHILTON & JOHN MCENROE

Exhibition Dates: December 14, 2007 - February 9, 2008

Opening Reception: Friday, December 14, 2007

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

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

Location: Gallery of Contemporary, UCCS

Tags: Contemporary Art, Artists, Sarah Braman (New York), Todd Chilton (Chicago), John McEnroe (Denver), painting, sculpture, Modernism, opening reception.

**Colorado Springs, November 5, 2007** – This December the Gallery of Contemporary Art, UCCS opens *Young Moderns: Sarah Braman, Todd Chilton & John McEnroe* - an exciting new exhibition that re-examines late Modernist painting's role within contemporary artists' work.

Sarah Braman (NYC), Todd Chilton (Chicago), and John McEnroe (Denver) are select contemporary artists whose work continues the distinct trajectory of late Modernist painting. During the 1950's, 60's, and 70's painting was being boiled down to its essence - its consistency, color, and a flat support on which to place the paint. Artists were abandoning representational subject matter in favor dripping paint, color fields, and geometric abstraction. Paint was no longer expected to look *like* something. Paint was free to look like and be paint.

Each of the artists in *Young Moderns* utilizes the theory and techniques of late Modernist painting in their work whether their work can be easily categorized as painting or not. **Sarah Braman's** sculptural work utilizes the flat surfaces of cardboard, Plexiglas, and

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plywood as grounds for her scumbled paint marks. She places these multiple supports for her paint together at various angles to create angular sculptures whose surfaces are treated as paintings.

**Todd Chilton's** pared down subject matter and use of geometric forms is akin to the work of Frank Stella or Kenneth Noland. Chilton's abstractions do not try to hide the fact that a human hand made his paintings. His lines are crooked and the paint drips, bestowing his paintings with a wry sense of humor that winks at history while creating new forms with the tools history gave him. Chilton has said, "I do think it could be useful to look at my work in the context of that moment in the history of abstraction if only to see that it functions with an awareness of its history. I make historically aware paintings that are of their own time."

As his predecessors were concerned with stripping painting of all unnecessary elements, **John McEnroe** strips his works of all materials but paint. McEnroe pours and drips paint across a large slab, allows it to dry, and then peels the paint from the slab. These "paintings" look like curtains or skinned beasts that hover somewhere between a painting and a sculpture as the sheets of paint ripple against the wall and drape over hooks and bolts.

These three "painters" use the theories and practices of late Modernism as a springboard to create smart works that seem unconcerned with their status as painting, sculpture, or conceptual exercise. To paraphrase Chilton, the works in this exhibition are historically aware, but distinctly *now*.

## BIOS

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**Sarah Braman** graduated from the graduate program at the Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, PA and has shown at Dicksmith Gallery, London, England; CANADA, New York, NY; Michael Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; D'amelio Terras New York, NY; Priska Juschka Fine Art. New York, NY; Galeria Commercial, San Juan, Puerto Rico; Galleri Christina Wilson, Copenhagen, Denmark; Sundaram Tagore Gallery, New York, NY; PS1, Long Island City, NY; Greener Pastures Contemporary Art, Toronto, Canada; Allston Skirt, Boston, MA; White Box, New York, NY; BACCA, Berkeley, CA; Pekao Gallery, Toronto, ON; Anna Leonowens Gallery, Halifax, Canada; and the Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA. She is also a co-founder of CANADA gallery in New York.

**Todd Chilton** received his MFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and has exhibited at Solo Wriston Art Gallery, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI; Raw & Co Gallery, Cleveland, OH; The Suburban, Oak Park, IL; Contemporary Art Workshop, Chicago, IL; Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL; Fifty50 Gallery, Chicago, IL; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX; Linda Warren Gallery, Chicago, IL; Heaven Gallery, Chicago, IL; and *The Stray Show*, Chicago, IL.

**John McEnroe** graduated with an MFA from the Ohio State University and his work has been exhibited at the Plus+gallery, Denver, CO; Art Miami International, Miami, FL; Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver, CO; The Laboratory of Art and Ideas, Denver, CO; Pirate Gallery, Denver, CO; ARK, Albuquerque, NM; and Vox Populi, Philadelphia, PA.

## EVENTS

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### **Pre-Show Appetizer**

Thursday, November 29, 7:00 p.m.

Learn more about the artists and themes in the exhibition, *Young Moderns: Sarah Braman, Todd Chilton & John McEnroe*. Impress your family and amaze your friends with the insightful knowledge you will display at the opening reception – knowledge that you picked up weeks earlier at the Pre-Show Appetizer. Regular permit parking restrictions are lifted for Lot 1 during the presentation.

### **Opening Reception**

Friday, December 14, 2007

Supporter's Reception: 5:30-7:00 p.m. (for GoCA Supporters and UCCS Students)

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

Join us at the opening reception for *Young Moderns*. During the Supporter's Reception (5:30-7:00) you can catch an early glimpse of the exhibition and hear the artists speak at 6:00 p.m. The doors will open at 7:00 p.m. for the public to enjoy excellent artwork, food, drink, and conversation. Regular permit parking restrictions will be lifted for Lots 3 & 4 only during the opening reception.

## BLURBS/RADIO SPOTS

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### **15 Second Spot**

The Gallery of Contemporary Art, UCCS features *Young Moderns: Sarah Braman, Todd Chilton & John McEnroe* - an exhibition that re-examines late Modernist painting's role within contemporary artists' work. The exhibition runs December 14, 2007 - February 9, 2008 with a public reception December 14<sup>th</sup> from 7 -9 p.m. For more information call 262-3567 or visit [www.galleryuccs.org](http://www.galleryuccs.org).

### **30 Second Spot**

This December the Gallery of Contemporary Art, UCCS features *Young Moderns: Sarah Braman, Todd Chilton & John McEnroe* - an exciting new exhibition that re-examines late Modernism and the role of painting within contemporary artists' work. Drawing from New York, Chicago, and Denver, this show features straight painting, paint as sculpture, and sculpture as painting. The exhibition runs December 14, 2007 - February 9, 2008 with a public reception December 14<sup>th</sup> from 7 -9 p.m. For more information call 262-3567 or visit the Gallery's website at [www.galleryuccs.org](http://www.galleryuccs.org).

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Images are available upon request. Please contact Christopher Lynn ([clynn@uccs.edu](mailto:clynn@uccs.edu) or [galleries@uccs.edu](mailto:galleries@uccs.edu)).

## LOCATION AND INFORMATION

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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 Visitor's 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](http://www.galleryuccs.org).

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