

## *Introspective/Retrospective*

### **Chris Corales, Joe Turner and Christine Shields**

curated by Chris Johanson

June 10 - August 6, 2011

#### **Reception with the artists and curator:**

Friday, June 10 from 6-9pm, with a music performance at 7pm

Fleisher/Ollman occasionally invites individuals to curate exhibitions responding to the gallery's program and history. For summer 2011, the gallery asked West Coast-based artist Chris Johanson. Johanson originally met Chris Corales, Joe Turner, and Christine Shields through social and music circles in San Francisco. In this exhibition Johanson connects the introspective and self-taught working artistic practices of Chris Corales and Joe Turner, while also providing a retrospective exhibition space for the artist Christine Shields.

**Chris Corales** (b. 1969, Berkley, CA) lives and works in Portland, OR. His formally minimal works are created from found book and paper scrap materials, working with a palette of "color phrases" that reference larger themes such as the seasons and architecture. Descriptive titles hint at narratives not initially evident through the works' imagery. According to Johanson, Corales is "constantly looking at the discarded, what crosses his path... I remember many walks where Chris would have a small case specifically for his 'findings'--this is what he calls the magical pieces of thrown-away material."

**Joe Turner** (b. 1963, Santa Monica, CA) lives and works in the Mission District of San Francisco, but was raised with a traveling family between five states: California, Texas, Florida, Pennsylvania and Maryland. He creates imaginative figures and dragons using twist ties, pipe cleaners, and paint. Turner works with a passion that Johanson describes as "constantly deeply concentrating. Every time I would see him he had a bag of twist ties making these sculptures." Johanson then discovered an entire row of Turner's works living above the bar at the Uptown, a local Mission District haunt.

**Christine Shields** (b. 1969, Mountain View, CA) lives and works in Sacramento, CA and has lived in San Francisco off and on since 1987. In the early 1990s she became involved in the thriving comics, zine and music scenes in New York and San Francisco. Johanson describes her artistic journey as one that has "taken many directions--from comics, album covers, music, performance, painting and illustration.... a well-rounded creative life built around necessity and imagination," and Shields' exhibition will therefore be retrospective in scope--including both old and new sculptures, paintings, drawings, albums and comics.

#### *About the Curator:*

**Chris Johanson** (b. 1968, San Jose, CA) is an artist currently living and working in Los Angeles, CA, recently relocated from Portland, OR. Johanson first started exhibiting in San Francisco, where he lived for fourteen years. Johanson believes that life is a series of actions and projects. That is why he makes many things in many media: painting, sculpture, installation, film, video, music, writing, bands, and enjoys collaborating with friends and strangers. Johanson's work has been exhibited widely, most recently at Baronian Francey in Brussels, Deitch Projects in New York, Jack Hanley in San Francisco, and was included in the 2002 Whitney Biennial.

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my history with them is this → met all 3 in SF  
But this is about them

- C + - are obsessive quality

The obvious connection  
may very well end with  
that word  
however the 2 have much  
in common.

education

both obsessive quality

CE constantly looking at the  
discarded that crosses his path  
cutting, filing, I remember many  
water where Chris would have a small  
case specifically for the pieces as he  
would call the magical pieces of  
"findings"  
Thrown away material that he would find

Joe is a stranger to me.

Joe Everytime I would see him he  
was usually in Muddy Waters cafe  
with a bag of twigs making  
these sculptures. Then I realized  
there was a row of them that  
went the entire length of the  
above the bar at the DPTown. Deeply concentrating

retrospective

a well rounded creative  
life built around necessity  
and ~~crea~~ imagination.  
what do you do to satisfy  
your creative life while to  
make a living  
and satisfy your creative  
spirit. This journey has  
taken Christine Shields  
work in many directions  
from comics, album covers,  
music, performance, painting  
illustrations.

what do you do to survive  
as an artist. ~~especially in SF~~  
~~survive~~ an example

NOT That Christine's work is not introspective.  
It is just like like life, BUT Chris-Joe have an  
immediate quality that I believe would have the viewer  
Thinking immediately This work is Obsessive.  
Introspective obsessive