

Cheryl Dunn: *Spit & Peanut Shells – American Pictures*
and
Antonio Adams: *Art Thing & the Orglycreeks & Common Surprise*

February 28 – May 16, 2009
Reception: Saturday, February 28, 4–8pm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Country Club is pleased to present two new exhibitions by **Cheryl Dunn** and **Antonio Adams**.

Cheryl Dunn is a New York based photographer and filmmaker. *Spit & Peanut Shells – American Pictures* features new and recent photography, video and objects documenting, not only Dunn's travels within the United States, but also her singular perspective on the diversity of environments, interactions, people and situations she encounters. In this way Dunn stitches together an idiosyncratic American portrait that considers the complexity and breadth of America's joy, arrogance, generosity, creativity, resilience, anger and isolation.

Described by Laura Heymann, "Dunn is a street photographer, and her eye is somewhat compulsive. It darts back and forth, grabbing minute details from anywhere and everywhere. This method produces an extraordinary volume of images, but then their brand of genius is cumulative. To view Dunn's work is to understand the true nature of a place, and to understand also that places change, more often for the worse than the better." [from the exhibition catalogue *Who's Afraid of America*, 2008]

Cheryl Dunn lives and works in New York City and has participated in film festivals and exhibited her photographs both nationally and internationally. Recent group and solo exhibitions include Deitch Projects, Fuse Gallery, New Image Art and recently, Galerie Impaire, Paris and Santander Cultural Center, Brazil. Dunn was included in the traveling museum exhibition *Beautiful Losers: Contemporary Art & Street Culture*, which recently ended its five year world tour.

Art Thing & the Orglycreeks & Common Surprise consists of a new body of paintings by Cincinnati based artist **Antonio Adams**. Adams has developed a sophisticated visual language that place superheroes, personal friends, celebrities, newsmakers, various personifications of the artist and his alter egos in situational dilemmas that often suggest some complex, if not ambiguous morality play. Adams also explores traditional portraiture techniques with his own unique approach to his subjects by projecting them into environments and roles of his choosing.

Along with new and recent work by Adams, Country Club is pleased to present a major collaboration between Adams and Cincinnati based artist **Brian Joiner**. The two artists have teamed up to create an impressive, large-scale triptych loosely modeled on Picasso's *Guernica* but populated by their own cast of characters and conflicts.

Adams describes his work as, "Turning negative into positive. We can make the positive things happen in this world. I'm showing you how. We got to go back in time to face all those problems, know the truth, learn about those mistakes, and fix things that have been broken."

Antonio Adams' work is collected locally and nationally, and he has been featured in various newspaper articles and television news stories. His sculptures, paintings and drawings have been featured at Base Gallery, Visionaries and Voices, The Pittsburgh Folk Art Exhibit and Symposium, The Outsider Art Fair in New York City, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, the America Oh Yes! Gallery, University of Cincinnati Medical Library and the TASH Conference in Anaheim, California.

Country Club is a project-based gallery serving as a catalyst for artists to explore new ideas and ambitious projects placed in thematic context with recent developments in contemporary art.



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