

COUNTRY CLUB / CINCINNATI
OCTOBER 23 – JANUARY 9, 2010
RECEPTION: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2009 7–9pm

For additional information please contact:
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Country Club is pleased to present *Kingdom of Nature*, a new exhibition by **Aaron Morse**.

AARON MORSE: KINGDOM OF NATURE

Aaron Morse, a Los Angeles-based artist, presents *Kingdom of Nature*, an exhibition of new and recent paintings and works on paper. New canvases and works on paper will continue Morse's exploration of historical imagery and the manner in which those images are shaped and manipulated over the course of time. Frequently addressing the impact of America's Manifest Destiny on global events, Morse creates new mythologies with images that are ingrained in the popular consciousness. Morse approaches these epic narratives through painting techniques that borrow equally from Northern Renaissance painting, early American illustration, Japanese printmaking and mid-20th Century comic books.

This new body of work by Morse will set a familiar historical national trajectory against the omnipresent backdrop of the current global political and economic climate. Examining images of the past to draw, albeit ambiguous, conclusions about the present. Much of Morse's work has been about creating alternate pictures from our received historical ones, but not with the goal of being revisionist. Factual accuracy, always debatable, is of less importance than an imaginative approach or curiosity about how history or pictures might be different. Shifting scales, overlapping picture planes and temporal collisions create a tension between the past and the present. *Kingdom of Nature* also presents a reconfigured version of the natural world, adjusted to account for the manner that images and ideas are processed in the new information age.

Morse states: "I think these days it's impossible not to consider ecology. Pollution, destruction of the environment and global warming are alarming to us as citizens. As an artist, I find these subjects resonant and provocative -- they describe a component of our collective psychology that should be reckoned with."
[From an interview with Alie Ward for *Brand X / Los Angeles Times*, July 14, 2009]

Aaron Morse received his Master of Fine Arts from the University of Cincinnati and currently lives in Los Angeles, California. Morse recently exhibited at the Hammer Museum of Art in Los Angeles and is included in the current traveling exhibition *The Old, Weird America: Folk Themes in Contemporary Art*. Aaron Morse's work is included in the collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

Morse will present a lecture/conversation on his work on Thursday October 22nd at 5PM in Aronoff Room 4400 of the Art/DAAP Building at the University of Cincinnati. Admission is free.

Gallery hours: Monday – Saturday | 10am–5pm | and by appointment



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