



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: August 27, 2009

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**Exhibition Opening + Artists' Open Studios + Anna Kramer + BBQ + Drinks =
Perfect Recipe for Art Lover's Delight at the
Friends with Benefits Evening at the Contemporary**

ATLANTA, GA —An evening of "tasty" events is taking place on Sept. 12 from 5-9 p.m. when the Atlanta Contemporary Art Center hosts *Friends with Benefits* at its gallery/studios, 535 Means St. N.W., on the Westside. These activities are meant to inform and delight the senses, bringing together art lovers for hours of fun, food, music and communality. The recipe is southern style with lip-smackin' and finger-lickin' BBQ and drinks served. Cash bar.

The cost is \$15 per person for non-members and \$10 per person for members. Proceeds benefit programming at the Contemporary. Event information is available online at www.thecontemporary.org or by calling 404.688.1970. The evening's schedule includes:

Annual Meeting 5-6 p.m.

This celebratory gathering of members is a "state of the union" assessment of 2009 accomplishments and a preview of upcoming exhibitions.

Exhibition Openings 6-7 p.m.

Organized to coincide with Atlanta Celebrates Photography, the Contemporary opens three new video and photography exhibitions, including Harry Shearer: *The Silent Echo Chamber*; Corin Hewitt: *Seed Stage*; Will Rogan: *Remnant World*. These distinct exhibitions, on view through November 22, 2009, explore aspects of celebrity and media culture, still life and transformation, and landscapes of consumerism. For additional exhibition information visit http://www.thecontemporary.org/gallery_futex.asp

Open Studios 7-9 p.m.

Studio Program artists open their spaces to reveal new works and share ideas about their creative process. The Studio Program provides subsidized studio space for 14 local working artists.

Atlanta band Anna Kramer and The Lost Cause take the stage 8 p.m.

Sara Graham in *BUST Magazine* writes that Anna Kramer and The Lost Cause is "rustic contemporary... a perfect mix of twangy guitar, dirty bar jams, and tinkling pianos..." And Howard Wyman, in his 2008 *Crawdaddy* review of the band, says "the simplicity and wholesomeness of Kramer's hard-knock, soda-fountain bad girl persona makes it palatable both for grown-ups and their kids."

And the event benefits don't stop there. Attendees will be the first to shop at the Contemporary's newest venture, a distinctive retail space, and the first to view the Contemporary's new website, www.thecontemporary.org, which will be presented during the annual meeting. "The website makeover is thanks to the generosity and talent of Digital Scientists," said Director of Institutional Advancement Saskia Benjamin. The Shop will be open during the event and thereafter. Items for sale include Nexus Press books, Dust-to-Digital recordings, select artists' multiples as well as other merchandise by local and national contemporary artists.

The Atlanta Contemporary Art Center's mission is to promote excellence, experimentation, and education in all forms of contemporary art. The Contemporary is a dynamic non-collecting institution that plays a vital role in Atlanta's cultural landscape by presenting consequential contemporary art and by supporting working artists and their creative process.

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**Atlanta
Contemporary
Art Center**

535 Means Street NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30318
404.688.1970
www.thecontemporary.org

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 • 5-9PM
\$15 PER PERSON/\$10 MEMBERS
proceeds benefit our programming

FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS RECIPE

- 1 teaspoon Annual Meeting, 5PM
- 3 ounces Opening Reception, 6PM
- Harry Shearer: *The Silent Echo Chamber*
- Corin Hewitt: *Seed Stage*
- Will Rogan: *Remnant World*
- 2 pounds Music w/ Anna Kramer + the Lost Cause
- 4 cups BBQ + DRINKS (cash bar)
- 6 tablespoons Open Studios

Mix together first two ingredients for approximately 1-2 hours. Add Anna Kramer + the Lost Cause + BBQ + Drinks for an even consistency. Fold in friends, artists + collectors. When this reaches a boil, add Open Studios + simmer.

* for more information:
WWW.THECONTEMPORARY.ORG

Special thanks to Morgan Keegan + Forward Arts Foundation



Harry Shearer, James Carville: *The Silent Echo Chamber*, 2008, Video still, Courtesy I.C. Editions, Inc., NY.



Corin Hewitt, *Untitled #22*, 2009, Color photograph, Courtesy the artist and Taxter & Spengemann, NY.



Will Rogan, *A-Cleaner World*, 2009, Silver gelatin photograph, Courtesy the artist and Small a Projects, NY.