

**EXHIBITION ANNOUNCEMENT****Dana Schutz: “Drawings and Prints”****“Embodying:” Joe Biel, James Gobel, Stephen Schofield, Allison Smith, Richard T. Walker****January 7 – March 20, 2011****at the Atlanta Contemporary Art Center**

**Atlanta** –December 23, 2010 - The Atlanta Contemporary Art Center begins the New Year with the opening of two new exhibitions, Dana Schutz: “Drawings and Prints,” and “Embodying,” a group exhibition including works by Joe Biel, James Gobel, Stephen Schofield, Allison Smith, and Richard T. Walker, on Fri., Jan. 7, 2011. Both exhibitions are a celebration of the human body in contemporary art.

Dana Schutz is an internationally acclaimed painter known for her exuberant canvases featuring grotesquely comic figures performing activities of creativity, violence and contemplation. She has been one of the most talked about artists of the past decade, consistently finding new narrative structures to infuse the venerable tradition of painting with an unpredictable expressionism. What is less known about Schutz is her use of drawing and printmaking as exploratory mediums where her discombobulated forms are figured out, color palettes are tested and stylistic approaches are vetted.

While Schutz has presented her canvases at prestigious galleries and museums around the world, this is the first exhibition to focus solely on her drawings and prints. This survey features loving portraits of friends and family, grotesque figures acting out shocking narratives, and preliminary drawings for well-known paintings. Working in dry and wet mediums (charcoal, ink, watercolor and various printmaking mediums) with equal dexterity, Schutz’s drawings and prints have some of the elegance and observational focus of David Hockney and Alice Neel, and the awkward intensity of artists including Max Beckman, Peter Saul and late Philip Guston.

The participating artists in “Embodying” are influenced by classic literature, daily rituals, urban communities and encounters with nature. Their works in various mediums offer male bodies of differing scales and attitudes. Biel’s precise figures are rendered in graphite on paper. Gobel’s bearish men are depicted in “paintings” made with felt, yarn, rhinestones and acrylic. Schofield’s larger-than-life male bodies are stitched together from recuperated clothing, stiffened with sugar water. Smith’s assemblage of found and fabricated items is based on a passage featuring Huck and Jim from Mark Twain’s “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn,” and Walker’s video and photographs show the artist as an isolated man confronting the beauty and vastness of nature.

“Embodying” was developed in partnership with the Artadia Exhibitions Exchange program in an effort to present works by the recipients of Artadia Grants at arts venues around the United States. The Atlanta Contemporary Art Center is featuring three 2009 grantees from San Francisco (Gobel, Smith and Walker) in this exhibition, along with two other artists.

This summer, we will present another four San Francisco Artadia artists in a thematic exhibition exploring concepts of display and space. For more information about Artadia visit <http://www.artadia.org/home.html>.

### **Exhibition Opening:**

The exhibition openings are Fri., Jan. 7, from 8 to 10 p.m. This event is open to the public and regular admission fees apply.

### **Artist Talk: Dana Schutz and Stephen Schofield**

Sat., Jan. 8, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Exhibiting artists Dana Schutz and Stephen Schofield discuss their work in terms of process, inspiration, and identity.

### **About the Artists:**

**Dana Schutz** lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Her work has been exhibited in solo exhibitions at Zach Feuer Gallery, New York; Contemporary Fine Arts, Berlin; The Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA; Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, OH; and Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris. Her paintings are in the collections of the Guggenheim Museum, The Museum of Modern Art, and Whitney Museum of American Art, in New York; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles. In 2010, a monograph on her work was published by Rizzoli International Publications.

**Joe Biel** lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. He received an MFA in Painting from the University of Michigan and is currently on the faculty at California State University Fullerton. His work has been exhibited in galleries nationally and internationally at L.A. Louver, Roberts & Tilton, Acuna-Hansen Gallery, and Angles Gallery, in Los Angeles; Goff & Rosenthal Gallery, New York; Greg Kucera Gallery, Seattle; and Kuckei + Kuckei, Berlin. He was the recipient of a Pollock-Krasner Foundation award in 2003 and 2008.

**James Gobel** lives and works in San Francisco, CA. He has exhibited his work in solo exhibitions at Marx & Zavattero, San Francisco; Steve Turner Contemporary, Hayworth Gallery, and Hammer Museum, UCLA in Los Angeles; Kravets|Wehby, New York; and The Sheppard Fine Arts Gallery, University of Nevada, Reno. His group exhibitions include “Underground Pop” at the Parrish Art Museum, Southampton, NY; “Pattern ID” at Akron Art Museum, Ohio; and “Boys of Summer” at moniquemeloche gallery, Chicago.

**Stephen Schofield** lives and works in Montreal, Canada. His work has been exhibited in solo exhibitions at galleries and museums including Pari Nadimi Gallery, The Power Plant, and Toronto Sculpture Garden, in Toronto; Galerie Joyce Yahouda and Galerie Christiane Chassay, in Montreal; Dalhousie Art Gallery, Halifax; and Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Alberta. His group exhibitions include “Empty Dress” at the Weatherspoon Art Museum, The University of North Carolina, Greensboro, and Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, FL; “The Presence of Touch” at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; and “Toward a New Vision,” John Weber Gallery, New York.

**Allison Smith** lives and works in San Francisco, CA. She received a BA in psychology from The New School for Social Research, a BFA in sculpture from Parsons The New School For Design, New York, and an MFA from the Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT. She has

exhibited her work at institutions including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, St. Louis; Indianapolis Museum of Art, IN; The Mattress Factory and Andy Warhol Museum, in Pittsburgh; and Palais de Tokyo, Paris. Her work is included in the collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Indianapolis Museum of Art, and Saatchi Gallery, London.

**Richard T. Walker** is a British artist currently living and working in San Francisco, CA. He received an MA in Fine Art from Goldsmiths, University of London in 2005. In 2010, he had solo shows at Franklin Art Works, Minneapolis; Àngels Barcelona, Spain; and Christopher Grimes Gallery, Santa Monica. His group exhibitions include “Don Quixote,” Witte de With, Rotterdam; “Romantic Damage,” De Appel, Amsterdam; “Beyond The Country,” The Lewis Glucksman Gallery, University College Cork, Ireland; “Terminus,” Para/Site Art Space, Hong Kong; and “Meditators,” at the National Museum in Warsaw. He has been selected for the “2011 Bay Area Now 6” triennial at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco.

### **About the Atlanta Contemporary Art Center:**

The Atlanta Contemporary Art Center is a non-profit, non-collecting institution dedicated to the creation, presentation, and advancement of contemporary art by emerging and established artists. ACAC creates a diverse cultural landscape for artists, arts professionals, and the art-interested public through its exhibitions, educational programming, and studio artist program.

Founded in 1973 as a grassroots artist cooperative, ACAC plays a vital role in Atlanta’s cultural landscape by making contemporary art accessible for everyone and by supporting artists and their creative process. ACAC presents 8-10 exhibitions per year featuring consequential artists from the local to international art scenes and organizes approximately 50 diverse educational offerings a year. ACAC is the only local institution providing subsidized studio space to 14 working artists removing cost as a barrier to the creative process. Visit [www.thecontemporary.org](http://www.thecontemporary.org) to learn more.

ACAC is open Tue/Wed 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thurs 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Fri/Sat 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun noon to 5 p.m. Admission is \$5, \$3 for students and seniors, free for members, children under age 12 and free all day on Thur. Free parking available.

For more information, contact: Stuart Horodner, artistic director, at 404-688-1970 x 214 or [shorodner@thecontemporary.org](mailto:shorodner@thecontemporary.org)

For high res images, contact: Jennifer Long, membership and outreach manager, at 404-688-1970 x 213 or [jlong@thecontemporary.org](mailto:jlong@thecontemporary.org)

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