

For Immediate Release

Issac Lin: *A Place Near Here*

Don Colley: *Cascade*

Exhibition Dates: January 21 - February 20, 2010

Opening Reception: Thursday, January 21 from 6-9pm

Fleisher/Ollman is very pleased to announce Isaac Tin Wei Lin's solo exhibition, *A Place Near Here*, which includes new two- and three-dimensional works, as well as collaborative pieces created by Lin and 25 fellow artists.

Lin is as influenced by his Chinese heritage (he is the first of his family to be born in the United States) as he is by American street and popular culture. In *A Place Near Here*, the artist continues his exploration of multiplicity and interstices. The works, a frenzy of calligraphic-like pattern, musical notation, cartoon cut-outs, and bright color, span traditional categories of painting, printmaking, assemblage, collage, sculpture and installation. The artist's repetitive mark-making, inspired by such things as Xi'an terracotta soldiers, ant colonies, and the artist's training in Mandarin Chinese, where for homework vocabulary words were written over and over, creates meaning and space through accumulation.

In the main gallery, Lin, best known for his graphic prints and paintings, will debut two major sculptural pieces. A variation on a piece shown at the Institute of Contemporary Art (Philadelphia) as part of *Locally Localized Gravity* in 2007, a simple room constructed from cardboard boxes is painted to resemble brick. The structure houses paintings and prints from floor to ceiling and resembles an abandoned building defaced over time. A second sculptural work, made from rigid insulation, is a tangle of three-dimensional lines and letters that simultaneously recall monuments, forests, and Matisse's cut-outs.

The side gallery will feature approximately thirty photographs taken by fellow artists and friends (including Barry McGee, Casey Belle Watson, Alex Lukas, Darshana Borah, Andrew Jeffrey Wright, and Dan Murphy) on which Lin has drawn and painted. Elegant lines fill and reactivate the negative spaces of each photo.

Isaac Tin Wei Lin graduated with a BFA in Painting from the Rhode Island School of Design and has an MFA from California College of the Arts. He is a former member of the artist collective Space 1026.

Also on view will be *Cascade*, a window installation by Chicago artist Donald Colley whose paintings, drawings, and prints are entrances into the bizarre. Circus clowns, sideshow acts, hobos and tramps frequent his noir portrayals, as do nightmarish creatures and darkly re-imagined cartoon characters. The artist, one part political cartoonist and one part prophet on a soapbox, is known for his cinematic references, use of kitschy materials and subjects, humor and horror.

In this heavily symbolic piece that viewers will encounter from the street, a menacing, but vulnerable clown is on the verge of going over a waterfall. References to danger, imprisonment, current politics and policies, masks and disguises, social disruption, the Freemasons, and power abound.

Born in Arizona and educated at the University of Texas, Austin, Colley spent many years in Philadelphia before moving to Chicago, where he now lives and works.

These exhibitions were organized as part of the Philagrafika 2010: Independent Projects. For information on Philagrafika 2010, and the more than 75 other independently curated projects taking place throughout the city, please visit the [web site](#).

Philagrafika, the organizing body of Philagrafika 2010, is a nonprofit arts organization in Philadelphia that provides leadership for large-scale, collaborative initiatives with broad public exposure.

For information on these exhibitions and events, please contact Amy Adams or Claire Iltis at 215.545.7562