

CITY SUBURBAN NEWS

June 9 – 15, 2010

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Art Gallery at City Hall Inaugural Exhibition



View "Cadence," 2009, by artist John Woodin, in the inaugural exhibition, "On the Rise," which coincides with the new Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy and The Art Gallery at City Hall. The gallery opens to the public on **June 17**.

The Philadelphia Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy, in cooperation with The Center for Emerging Visual Artists (CFEVA), InLiquid, and Philadelphia Sculptors, presents "On The Rise: The Art Gallery at City Hall Inaugural Exhibition of Emerging Artists." The exhibition will be on view from **June 16 through August 6**. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The gallery is free and open to the public. All are welcome.

The inaugural exhibition, "On the Rise" coincides with a mayoral ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy and The Art Gallery at City Hall. The ceremony on June 16 is a private affair. Additionally, an Open House is scheduled for the next day, **June 17** from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Beginning with the Open House, the gallery will be open to the general public. Gallery hours will be Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., closed weekends and holidays.

"On the Rise" includes artists from three of Philadelphia's leading emerging artist organizations: The Center for Emerging Visual Artists (CFEVA), InLiquid, and Philadelphia Sculptors. The artists exhibiting in On The Rise include CFEVA Artists: Leslie Atik, Tim Portlock, Benjamin Volta, and John Woodin, InLiquid Artists: Arden Bendler Browning, Amze Emmons, Lorraine Glessner, and Miriam Singer, and Philadelphia Sculptors: Colette Fu, Darla Jackson, Samantha Lynch, and Anyta Thomas. The show presents a variety of works including painting, sculpture, printmaking, photography, mixed media, drawing, large-scale pigment prints, and installation.

The exhibition was co-curated by Leslie Kaufman of Philadelphia Sculptors, Jenny Laden of InLiquid, and Amie Potsic of CFEVA. "On The Rise" was coordinated by Tu Huynh of the Art In City Hall Program.

Gary Steuer, Chief Cultural Officer and Director of the Philadelphia Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy stated, "This gallery has been created by the Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy to further enliven City Hall with arts and culture. The exhibitions in this gallery will highlight the work of emerging artists as well as our extraordinary array of cultural organizations and festivals. It will also sometimes serve as an extension of the Art in City Hall program, in addition to featuring the work of students and other nonprofessional artists. Many of the exhibitions will involve partnerships with existing cultural organizations, providing them with an opportunity for enhanced public outreach and access to new audiences. The Art Gallery at City Hall is a tangible representation of the value this City places on its arts, culture and heritage community, and will bring the power of the arts to the many City workers and visitors who pass through City Hall every day."

Philadelphia Sculptors was formed in 1996 by professional sculptors interested in establishing more visibility and opportunities for Philadelphia area sculptors. Their mission is to promote contemporary sculpture and serve as an advocate for sculptors while expanding public awareness of the role and value of sculpture within our culture through exhibitions, public forums, member services, and educational outreach.

InLiquid is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to providing opportunities and exposure for visual artists and designers, serving as a free public hub for arts information and resources, and making the visual arts more accessible to a broader audience.

The Center For Emerging Visual Artists (CFEVA), formerly Creative Artists Network, was founded in 1983 by Felicity R. "Bebe" Benoiel to encourage the career development of emerging visual artists. CFEVA dedicates itself to making art careers viable for those who choose them, helping emerging artists reach their audiences, and promoting interest and understanding of emerging visual art among citizens of the community. Currently, CFEVA serves emerging artists through three comprehensive programs: The Career Development Program, The Regional Community Arts Program, and Philadelphia Open Studio Tours (POST). All of the artists in this City Hall exhibition are current Fellows in CFEVA's 2-year Career Development Program. As Fellows, artists have opportunities to experience a full exhibition schedule, receive career counseling and mentorship, teach in the community, and participate in numerous professional development opportunities.

"On The Rise" will be on view at The Art Gallery at City Hall located at Broad and Market Streets, First Floor, East Portal Market Street Entrance, Room 116, in Philadelphia. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Contact Amie Potsic for information at amie@cfeva.org or 215-546-7775 ext. 12.