

INLIQUID TM art+DESIGN

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InLiquid at the Crane Hall presents
Drawing Machine
an installation by **Chad Curtis**
January 29 – March 20 2010

The Hall at the Crane Arts Building
1400 N. American St, Philadelphia, PA
Second Thursday Reception: February 11, 6 – 9 pm



Chad Curtis, *Drawing Machine v.1*, 2009, computer, microcontroller, wood, pencil, hardware, mixed media (installation detail)

(Philadelphia, December 2009) InLiquid presents *Drawing Machine*, an installation of new work by Chad Curtis at the Hall exhibition space in the Crane Arts Building. There will be an opening reception for the artist on **Second Thursday, February 11, 2010** from 6 to 9 pm, and an additional reception on Second Thursday, March 11, from 6 to 9 pm.

During the past year Chad Curtis has been making drawings using a home-brewed CNC-based drawing machine as a studio tool, fashioned primarily of components from the local big box store. Still enamored with the mechanical motion of the machine, Curtis designed a wall-hung version, capable of functioning during exhibitions, to draw directly on the gallery wall with a standard, mechanical graphite pencil.

Curtis' drawing machine retains the tension between high and low-tech, exposing the banality of its components aside the precision of the digital electronics. The nuance of the machine resides in this tension, offering accessibility to the viewer that presents a duality -- digital and analog -- reflecting the state of contemporary life. This accessibility, further enhanced by the tactility of the images, challenges the assumptions of both digital processes and of the handmade, residing somewhere in between and less easily categorized.

Exploring the space between digital and analog, Curtis deftly undermines the dual system with his handmade, digital tools. When the digital is no longer viewed as an unknown foreign entity, impenetrable in its logic, it becomes raw material, like any other material, yet the boundaries grow into something much less clear. The result is an engaging process oriented work, both performative and exhibitive simultaneously. During the course of this exhibition, a series of drawings will be made which will then be added to the exhibition.

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Chad Curtis is an artist and technologist living and working in Philadelphia. Curtis holds a MFA from Alfred University and has exhibited internationally, including: *Exporting Pop: A Western Fantasy*, Kuwait Art Foundation, Kuwait City & Dubai (2009); *Kristine Tillge Lund Invites...*, PULS Contemporary Ceramics, Brussels (2009); *Margins: A Nontraditional Approach to Clay*, The Icehouse, Phoenix, AZ (2009); *Archaeology of Wonder*, Real Art Ways, Hartford, CT (2008); *Primary*, Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University, Grand Rapids, MI (2008); *Scope Hamptons*, East Hampton, NY (2007); *CIRCA Puerto Rico*, San Juan, Puerto Rico (2007); *One Part Clay: Ceramic Avant-garde & Mixed Media*, Garth Clark Gallery, Long Island City, NY (2006); *Scope Miami*, Miami Beach, FL (2006); and *SOFA New York*, New York, NY (2005). Additionally, his work has been included in such publications as: *Ceramics Art and Perception*, *Neue Keramik*, *Seramik Turkiye*, and the recent books *Breaking the Mould: New Approaches to Ceramics* and *Tangible: High Touch Visuals*. Currently, he is an Assistant Professor at the Tyler School of Art, Temple University in Philadelphia. Additional information can be found at www.chaddcurtis.com.

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ABOUT INLIQUID

Founded in 1999, InLiquid is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization dedicated to expanding opportunities and exposure for visual artists while serving as a freely-accessible public hub for art. By providing the public with immediate access to view the portfolios of over 280 artists via the internet, through community-based activities and exhibitions in a variety of venues, and through an extensive online body of timely art information—including gallery listings, articles, reviews, artist resources, links, and discussions—InLiquid brings to light the richness of our region's art activity and broadens audiences for all forms of visual art. www.inliquid.com