

INLIQUIDTM art+DESIGN

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Images Available Upon Request

InLiquid at the Bride presents
Home, new work by
Colleen McCubbin Stepanic
March 31 – May 15, 2010

Painted Bride Art Center Café Gallery
230 Vine Street, Philadelphia, PA
First Friday receptions:
April 2 and May 7, 5 - 7 pm



Colleen McCubbin Stepanic, *Buy Yourself a Good Life*, 2009,
paper, staples, ads, 72 x 84"

(Philadelphia, March 2009) This spring, **InLiquid** presents *Home*, an installation of new mixed media work by artist Colleen McCubbin Stepanic at the Painted Bride Art Center Café Gallery. There will be an opening reception for the artist on **First Friday, April 2, 2010 from 5 to 7 pm**, and an additional reception on **May 7, from 5 to 7 pm**.

This exhibition is composed of works that touch upon the current economic situation, especially with regard to the effect it has on family stability. McCubbin Stepanic's representations of home -- something that should be solid and sheltering -- are instead ephemeral and insubstantial. In making these works, the artist referenced the story of the Three Little Pigs, which teaches children the importance of preparation because it involves both personal responsibility (choice of building materials) and external forces (the wolf). *Home* interweaves these personal and external elements, but replaces the wolf with such real-life threats as job loss and bankruptcy.

McCubbin Stepanic uses processes of cutting, sewing, and painting. Each piece is created, then altered, and then recreated into a new form. In some instances the works mimic geological processes. Small pieces are cut and then sewn or stapled together into large works. Inspired by events that move the earth, these works mimic both erosion and construction. This work encompasses both directions of such processes at once. The simplicity of the forms and the complexity of the process work together to create paintings that never overtly explain themselves but carry a sense of deep meaning. These works reveal themselves over time: The longer they are viewed the more a confusing jumble of information unfolds into a record of events and activities.

Exemplifying her process is *Buy Yourself*, a compelling piece made completely from paper advertisements and staples. It is a reflection of the conflict between what drives our consumerist economy and the reality of current economic limitations.

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McCubbin Stepanic is a multi-media artist based in Philadelphia. *Home* is her first experience at The Painted Bride. Recent exhibitions of her work include a 2008 solo show at the Earlville Opera House Gallery in Earlville, NY. She also participated in *8-Hour Projects* (2008) at Bowman, Penlec & Megahan Galleries in Meadville, PA; *Reason, Faith and Imagination* (2008) at ArtStreet Studio D Gallery in Dayton, OH; and the *9th Annual National Exhibition* (2008) at the Huber Art Center at Shippensburg University. Stepanic received her MFA from Tyler School of Art in 2003, and in 2005 was selected for an International Artists Residency in Budapest, Hungary.

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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 hub for arts information. By providing the public with immediate access to view the portfolios of over 270 artists via the internet, through "real world" 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