

PRESS CONTACT:
Oliver Wunsch
215.925.9914 ext. 14
oliver@paintedbride.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 23, 2009



What: *Synesthesia* Gallery Exhibition
Where: Painted Bride Art Center, 230 Vine Street, Philadelphia
When: April 3 - May 16, 2009; First Friday Receptions April 3 and May 1, 5 -7pm
Price: FREE

Guest Curator Anabelle Rodriguez Pushes Sensory Limits in *Synesthesia* Group Exhibition at the Bride Brings Together Over A Dozen Artists

PHILADELPHIA, PA – Local curator and visual anthropologist **Anabelle Rodriguez** brings together the work of artists who question the divide between the visual and the rest of our senses. Over the past decade, Philadelphia has revealed a thriving community of versatile artists who combine multiple sensory approaches to their work in innovative and unexpected ways. The *Synesthesia* project started out as a response to this versatility, as a modest desire to harness some of their boundless creativity and put together a series of events that are intensely amusing yet intelligent, thought provoking yet entertaining, clever yet humorous.

Participating artists like **Art Fanega**, **John Schenk**, and **Matt Cue** are as comfortable making music as they are producing visual work in their respective media of painting, experimental photography, and digital animation. Others, like **Roderick Coover** and **Shelley Thorstensen**, have already long mastered “the synesthetic approach” and produce experimental work that pushes a single medium across sensory categories.

Synesthesia as a neurobiological phenomenon is a tangible state of fused perceptual awareness. As a creative metaphor, however, it serves as an inspiring launching pad for artists who constantly explore the realm of the imagination and strive to create work that is original and reflects their innermost perceptions.

Rodriguez aims to create a window into just how chaotic and overwhelming our worlds, both inner and outer, really have become. “If this exhibition seems to be over the top and a tad too much it has succeeded,” she comments. “If it makes you consider our current urbanite lives in a new light, then it has achieved the goal of not so much confusing as mixing up and bringing together new forms and new sounds into expressive combinations that speak of our modern lives as much as of individual artistry.”

Participating artists include: S. Damary Burgos, Roderic Coover, Matt Cue, Daniel De Jesus, Samantha Ernst, Art Fanega, Sofia Maldonado, Matt Neff, Mark Price (Space 1026), Dan One Polanco, Jacqueline Reis, Mario Rodriguez, John Schenk/Tantrum Tonic, Serendip, Daryl Raven Thompson, Shelley Thorstensen, Reade Vaisman, Michelle Wilson.

MISSION: Painted Bride Art Center collaborates with emerging and established artists to create, produce, and present innovative work that affirms the intrinsic value of all cultures and celebrates the transformative power of the arts. Through performances and exhibitions, education and outreach, the Bride creates a forum for engagement centered on contemporary social issues.

ARTIST BIOS, STATEMENTS, PHOTOS AND INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE.
Contact Oliver Wunsch, Painted Bride Marketing Director, at 215-925-9914 x14 or
oliver@paintedbride.org

#