

# t r a n s f o r m e r

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Transformer presents our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual DC Artist Solo Exhibition:

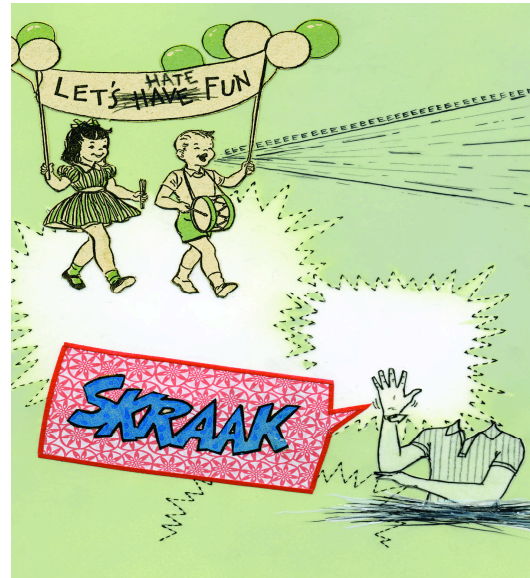
D. Billy

*Sink Sank Sunk*

October 27 – December 1, 2007

OPENING RECEPTION: Saturday, October 27, 2007, 7-9pm

ARTIST TALK: Saturday, December 1, 2007, 2pm



D. Billy's first solo exhibition, **Sink Sank Sunk** features a new series of graphical, mixed-media scenes — some self-contained on panel or paper, and others creeping out onto the gallery walls — combining drawing and painting with images and language culled from comic books, instruction manuals, product advertisements, and children's activity books, featuring characters plagued by miscommunication and bouts of cartoon violence.

According to D. Billy, "The construction of these works is very much in line with the approach to creative problem solving known as Synectics. Synectics essentially involves drawing connections between seemingly unrelated phenomena, and seeking new ways to subvert one's own traditional ways of thinking by applying personification and different types of analogies and metaphors. It involves the use of Play to float possibilities that seem absurd at the outset, and paying attention to what is called the "Hedonistic Response" -- the excitement that comes with hitting upon a valid intuition. That, more or less, is how each of these pictures was made. Rather than working from ideas and seeking the vessels to communicate them, I started with a lexicon of images, words, and mark-making methods, and arranged them in various permutations until some subconscious "eureka" moment occurred, and relationships began to emerge of their own accord. In Synectics, this is called the "Autonomy of Object" – when the solution begins to take on a life of its own. "

"The three photographs in this exhibition, the first in a new body of work, document experiments in bringing these sensibilities into the material world. Using colorful media such as twisting balloons, party streamers, and artist tape, I have begun to add visual representations of sound effects to public spaces as a sort of dimensional graffiti. After embellishing the found scenes and photographing the results, I leave my additions in place to engage passers-by for as long as the materials hold up. For me, this process encourages a re-examination of surroundings and objects that are usually taken for granted, and injects a hint of the fantastical surreality that I have established in my other work. "

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[www.transformergallery.org](http://www.transformergallery.org)

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D. Billy (a.k.a. David William) has been involved in the DC art scene since 2004 as both an artist and an arts administrator. He has participated in local group shows at the District of Columbia Arts Center, Warehouse, Cubicle 10, Front Room Projects, and Sightline, and is an active member of the LPC(+1) collective. He works as a graphic designer and production artist for DC-based independent clothing designer Jon Wye, and is currently serving as Director of Special Projects for the Washington Project for the Arts \ Corcoran, developing the ArtFile Online resource for DC-area artists and curators.

D. Billy earned his BA from SUNY Fredonia in 2001 with a concentration in Drawing and Painting, and his MFA from the University of Connecticut in 2003, where he wrote his thesis on Fluxus, Mail Art, and the application of Game Theory to art studio practice. D.Billy is a recipient of a 2007 Young Artist grant from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

**EXHIBITION HOURS for *Sink Sank Sunk*:** Wednesday – Saturday, 1–7pm & by appointment.

**TRANSFORMER** is a Washington, D.C. based 501(c) 3 non-profit, artist-centered visual arts organization that connects and promotes emerging artists locally, nationally and internationally. Partnering with artists, curators, art spaces and other cultural entities, Transformer serves as a catalyst and advocate for emergent expression in the visual arts. Transformer's 2007/2008 exhibition series is supported by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities/NEA, the Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Eugene and Agnes E. Meyer Foundation, and The Visionary Friends of Transformer.

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