transformer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 19, 2011

transformers

August 31 – October 2, 2011
Gallery 31 at the Corcoran College of Art + Design
500 Seventeenth Street NW, Washington DC, 20006
Opening Reception: Thursday, September 1, 6 – 9 pm

transformers: the next generation

September 17 – October 22 at Transformer

Opening Reception: Saturday, September 17, 6 – 8 pm

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Transformer is honored to launch our 10th Exhibition Season with *transformers* and *transformers: the next generation* – two expansive group exhibitions highlighting the current work of Corcoran College of Art + Design alumni who have helped to define Transformer's exhibition program aesthetic since our inception, and a new generation of artists emerging in their careers.

transformers, which will be presented at the Corcoran's Gallery 31, features new works by artists: Reuben Breslar, Breck Brunson, Jessica Cebra, Natalie W. Cheung, Cynthia Connolly, Jennifer De Palma, Nilay Lawson, Hatnim Lee, Marissa Long, Maki Maruyama, Solomon Sanchez, Mica Scalin, Zach Storm, Tang, and Jason Zimmerman. This exhibition celebrates Transformer's mission as a catalyst & advocate for emerging expression in the visual arts and the many Corcoran College alumni we have worked with over the past ten years. As part of transformers at the Corcoran's Gallery 31, we are pleased to present *Poesy/Poetry/Poetics with Casey Smith* on Thursday, September 15, 6 – 8 pm.

In tandem with *transformers* on view at the Corcoran, Transformer will present *transformers: the next generation* in our 1404 P Street NW project space, featuring new works by five recent graduates of the Corcoran College of Art + Design's class of 2011: Forest Allread, Pavlos Karalis, Sarah Robbins, Aris Slater, and Victoria Shaheen.

On the relationship between the Corcoran and Transformer, Casey Smith, Corcoran Professor and Transformer Advisory Council Member, states: "Why is it that the students, faculty, and alumni of the Corcoran have shared such a close relationship to Transformer over these years? I would argue that it's not a matter of proximity, but rather a shared set of ideas about the role of art in contemporary life. I don't mean 'contemporary life' in the abstract sense, but *this* contemporary life that unfolds during *this* particular time in *this* particular place. Transformer, like the Corcoran College of Art + Design, chooses possibility over predictability."

GALLERY 31 @ THE CORCORAN EXHIBITION HOURS: Wednesday, Friday – Sunday 10 am – 5 pm, Thursday 10 am – 9 pm.

TRANSFORMER EXHIBITION HOURS: Wednesday – Saturday, 1 – 7 pm, & by appointment.

Image Credits: Marissa Long, Fake Food, c-print, 16 X 20 inches, 2011; Victoria Shaheen, YEAH RIGHT!, stoneware, underglaze, high fire celadon, dimensions variable, 2011.

t rans former is a Washington, DC based 501 (c) 3 artist-centered non-profit visual arts organization, providing a consistent, supportive, and professional platform for emerging artists to explore and present experimental artistic concepts, build audiences for their work, and advance their careers. A catalyst and advocate for contemporary artists and emergent expression in the visual arts, Transformer connects and promotes emerging visual artists within regional, national and international contexts through exhibition and programs partnerships with artists, curators, commercial galleries, museums and other cultural institutions. Transformer's 2011/2012 exhibition series and programs are supported by: The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The CrossCurrents Foundation, The Robert Lehman Foundation, The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities/NEA, The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts' Access to Artistic Excellence award, and The Visionary Friends of Transformer.