

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The world is shrinking: Are you on solid ground?
“WITHIN FOUR MILES”: THE WORLD OF JOSH DORMAN
August 24, 2008 – January 11, 2009



CAFAM is proud to present the work of New York-based artist Josh Dorman in his solo museum exhibition debut, “Within Four Miles.”

Called a “cartographic zealot” by ArtForum and “pure refreshment” by the L.A. Times, Dorman works with antiquated 19th and 20th century maps to create electrifying and gorgeously collaged dreamscapes where structure and imagination collide. “Within Four Miles” - a title inspired by Lewis and Clark’s ability to predict accuracy in uncharted land - represents a decade of the artist’s work and showcases his exploration of the polymorphous borders of the human mind in relation to time and place, symbol and meaning.

Influenced by Paul Klee and compared to Brueghel, Dorman uses pre-1940 maps and surveys as a framework for his mixed-medium collages. Combining ink, acrylics, and elements from pre-photographic textbooks and engravings, Dorman creates allegorical and lush fantasyscapes that belie the absolute empiricism of topography by reminding us that the natural world is in perilous flux and that the mind, in its totality, possesses a lyrical logic all its own. Visceral and thought-provoking, Dorman’s paintings engage aspects of scale and perception in their exploration of motifs ranging from the power and suggestiveness of language, to evolution, to the destruction of the natural world.

Included in this exhibition are signature works such as “Exodus,” “Tower of Babel,” and “A Cautionary Tale” as well as pieces done in conjunction with Memory Bridge, an Alzheimer’s awareness foundation. These intimate and revelatory pieces compliment Dorman’s larger work and speak to the exhibition’s theme: in a twenty-first century world where physical borders and identities remain fiercely, even fatally, guarded, there is a deeper connectivity that unites all things and bestows an equal worth.

As our collective attention span grows shorter, as the world grows smaller, and as our polar ice caps melt rapidly into the sea, “Within Four Miles” provides a political and poetic context for examining this new world order.

Related Programming

OPENING RECEPTION

Thursday, August 21, 2008

6pm – 8pm at CAFAM

ARTIST LECTURE

Sunday, October 12, 2008

3pm at CAFAM

Join artist Josh Dorman as he discusses the inspiration, techniques, and processes behind the creation of his fantastical collages.

****** Images available upon request ******

About the artist

Josh Dorman lives and works in Manhattan, NY. He received an undergraduate degree from Skidmore College and an MFA from Queens College in New York. He has exhibited in galleries across the country, including the prestigious Mary Ryan Gallery in Manhattan, and the George Billis Gallery in Los Angeles. His work has been reviewed in the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, ArtForum, and The New Yorker.

Since 2001, Dorman has used pre-1940 topographical maps as a framework for his paintings. Combining ink, acrylics, and elements from pre-photographic textbooks and engravings, Dorman creates mixed-medium collages that invite and yet defy narrative. Visceral and thought-provoking,

Dorman's work employs aspects of scale and perception in its exploration of themes ranging from the power and suggestiveness of language, to evolution, to the destruction of the natural world.

For more information about Josh Dorman contact Sonja Cendak at CAFAM or

<http://www.joshdorman.net>

About The Craft and Folk Art Museum

CAFAM was founded nearly 40 years ago by the high priestess of folk art, Edith Wyle, who made it her mission to celebrate cultural and intellectual diversity in her native Los Angeles. Today, the museum continues her mission by serving as a cultural bridge to champion cultural understanding and encourage curiosity of our world through the presentation of folk art and contemporary craft. As a non-collecting institution, CAFAM offers a dynamic mix of eclectic exhibitions that bestow a fresh, contemporary view of folk art and craft and lead patrons on a path of discovery. CAFAM programs demonstrate that by exploring art, universal truths are revealed and community is strengthened.

Craft and Folk Art Museumbecause a shrinking world requires an EXPANDED mind

5814 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90036

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www.cafam.org

Museum Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 11 am – 5 pm

Thursday 11 am – 7 pm

Saturday and Sunday 12 – 6 pm

Museum Admission





General \$5.00 / Students and Seniors 3.00

Members and Children under 12 Free / Free 1st Wednesday of month

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Craft and Folk Art Museum

IMAGE LIST

 A complex, multi-layered artwork featuring a central figure that resembles a horse or a creature with a horse's head. The background is a collage of various elements, including a lighthouse, a ship, and architectural structures, all rendered in a painterly style with visible brushstrokes and a rich color palette.	<p>(image1) Equine, 2008 Ink, acrylic, antique maps and paper on panel 8 x 10 in. Image courtesy of the artist</p>
 A painting depicting a large, textured rock formation in the foreground, with a dark, shadowy area below it that suggests a body of water or a cave entrance. The background is a mix of green and brown tones, creating a sense of depth and atmosphere.	<p>(image2) Night Fishing II, 2008 Ink, acrylic, antique maps and paper on panel 34 x 36 in. Image courtesy of the artist</p>
 A highly detailed and chaotic artwork featuring a central figure that appears to be a person or a creature, surrounded by a dense array of small, intricate details. The composition is layered and complex, with a mix of colors and textures that suggest a narrative or a specific scene.	<p>(image3) Drawing Board, 2008 Ink, acrylic, antique maps and paper on panel 18 x 27 in. Image courtesy of the artist</p>
 A painting featuring a central figure that appears to be a person or a creature, surrounded by a dense array of small, intricate details. The composition is layered and complex, with a mix of colors and textures that suggest a narrative or a specific scene.	<p>(image4) Brooklyn, 2008 Ink, acrylic on antique map on panel 20 x 16 in. Image courtesy of the artist</p>