

FLASHPOINT

A CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PROJECT

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Flashpoint Gallery Presents
Adam Dwight & Dana Jeri Maier:
Off in a Corner



Dana Jeri Maier & Adam Dwight

April 1 – May 7, 2011
Opening Reception: Friday, April 1, 6 – 8 pm

WASHINGTON, DC – Dana Jeri Maier and Adam Dwight manipulate the line between fine art and illustration in *Off in a Corner*, opening Friday, April 1 at Flashpoint Gallery. The exhibition brings together works that explore issues of drinking and adulthood as influenced by the artists' mutual interest in biography and narrative.

Maier has amassed a collection of over 400 pen and ink drawings on bar coasters over the last two years. The works are both obsessive, observational and serve as an autobiography of the artist's travels and a unique depiction of modern life. While Maier takes a more general look at her own biography and that of those around her, Dwight's work focuses on a specific individual. Dwight will share paintings, a mixed media sculpture and an animation exploring the public life of Candace "Candy" Lightner, the founder of MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving), including a portrait made in collaboration with Lightner herself.

Off in a Corner explores transitions made to adulthood and the role that drinking plays in them. Maier's renderings are influenced by classic children's book illustrators and modern-day cartoonists, and she uses her intuition for the ideas and inspirations seen in her drawings. Her quirky characters and bizarre imagery suggest fully-realized inner worlds teeming with untold stories just below the surface.

Dwight's previous work plumbed notions of identity and belief, inspired by underground comix and horror films. The results were a series of works exploring personal, ambiguous fictions filled with nightmarish characters. Within the context of society and drinking, Dwight hones his focus on the personality of Candy Lightner, who galvanized supporters around her personal tragedy to raise the legal drinking age. Dwight assumes an artist-created identity to peel apart the layers of Lightner's story and compose a revisionary history of Lightner's position as the figurehead of a social movement.

On April 21 at 6:30pm, *Drink 'n Draw*, a Pink Panel @ Flashpoint, will be held in conjunction with the Pink

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Line Project. Andrea Pollan, Director of Curator's Office will discuss the work and the gallery audience will be invited to follow the artists to two nearby bars by candlelight. There, Maier and Dwight will create new drawings that will be given out to the first five requests at each establishment.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Dana Jeri Maier is an emerging artist and illustrator living and working in DC. Maier's work was previously featured in *Arcade*, an exhibition sponsored by The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. She is a Scion x-Change Program artist and served a 2008 Keyholder Residency at Pyramid Atlantic Art Center in Silver Spring, MD.

Adam Dwight is an artist living and working in the DC-metro area since 2002. Dwight was recently selected as a finalist in the washingtonpost.com Real Art DC competition and was a participant in the Transformer Gallery 2010 Exercises 7 program in Washington, DC.

ABOUT THE FLASHPOINT GALLERY PROGRAM

Flashpoint Gallery is dedicated to nurturing artists, expanding their visibility and encouraging dialogue between artists and arts patrons. As a nonprofit gallery, Flashpoint provides a special opportunity for artists and curators to present new media, site-specific installations, performance pieces and other experimental forms free from the constraints of commercial expectations. An advisory panel of noted artists and arts professionals oversees the programming for the gallery and provides mentorship and support to exhibiting artists. Flashpoint Gallery, a CuDC project, is generously supported by The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, The Kresge Foundation, the MARPAT Foundation, the Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, Prince Charitable Trusts, The Washington Post and many other generous partners. Hotel Helix is Flashpoint's 2010-2011 Hotel Partner. Barefoot Wine is Flashpoint's 2010-2011 Wine Partner. American Airlines is the official airline of CuDC.

ABOUT FLASHPOINT

Flashpoint, a Cultural Development Corporation project, is a nonprofit, multi-disciplinary arts space dedicated to nurturing emerging artists and cultural organizations in order to build their professional capacity. Flashpoint provides services and training for cultural organizations to help strengthen their management capacity and offers exhibit and performance spaces that enable arts groups to focus on their artistic goals and expand their visibility. Flashpoint includes a contemporary art gallery, the 75-seat Mead Theatre Lab, the Coors Dance Studio and shared office space for arts organizations.

Adam Dwight & Dana Jeri Maier: *Off in a Corner*

Opening Reception: Friday, April 1, 6-8pm

Pink Panel @ Flashpoint: April 21, 6:30pm

Exhibition: April 1 – May 7, 2011

Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 12-6 pm or by appointment

For more information: Call 202.315.1310 or visit flashpointdc.org

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