

t r a n s f o r m e r

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CONTACT: Victoria Reis/Ebony Dumas
202.483.1102 or info@transformerdc.org

(e)merge
art fair

October 4-7, 2012
Capitol Skyline Hotel
10 "I" Street, SW
Washington DC, 20024
Rooms 201 & 202



Transformer features artists Mariah Anne Johnson, Andrew Kozlowski and Heather Ravenscroft + selected works from our *FlatFile* program in **Rooms 201 & 202** at the 2nd Annual (e)merge art fair!

Transformer is excited to present DC based artists **Mariah Anne Johnson** and **Heather Ravenscroft**, and Alabama based artist **Andrew Kozlowski**, in the 2012 (e)merge art fair. Each of these artists brings a unique approach to the idea of mapping with the new works they have created specifically for Transformer's participation in (e)merge. Johnson's dense stacks of perfectly folded bed sheets and pillow cases convey the idea of sedimentary mappings, while Kozlowski and Ravenscroft's drawing and prints are reminiscent of deconstructed road and treasure maps. Kozlowski works directly with roadway imagery in screen-printing while Ravenscroft eludes to animal burrows and tracks in her ink and colored pencil drawings.

ROOM 201:

Responding to the texture and patterns of the Capitol Skyline Hotel's room carpeting for her site specific installation at (e)merge, **Mariah Anne Johnson** states about her work, "Since I began working as an artist, I have been interested in narrative, memory, and the effect of place on our perception of these topics. My interest in these subjects stems from my having grown up in the American South, where culture is focused on the past and family histories are preserved in a collective memory of language, objects, and gestures. I explore these ideas through a bifurcated working method in which my daily practice is creating paintings on paper in my studio, paired with forays into exhibition spaces where I create large-scale installations with bed sheets."

Heather Ravenscroft newest series involves capturing/mapping animal movement and behaviors in the wild, by using cameras inside celebratory cakes on special occasions in her life such as friend and family birthdays and anniversaries. Heather states about her work: "I am using a technique known as camera trapping, which is also used by wildlife managers. I am monitoring animal movement with infrared motion sensor game cameras. The celebrations serve as the setting, with the cake as the attractant. The resulting graphite, ink and watercolor drawings collapse the monitored time span into one occasion in which everyone is present, including me."

Andrew Kozlowski's current focus is on the desert, using a desert landscape to depict the tension between habitable and uninhabitable space. Andy states: "For me the mapping is located in the landscape, particularly where borders between humans and nature meet."

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ROOM 202:

In our adjoining Room 202 at (e)merge, Transformer will present selected works from our *FlatFile* program within a whimsical lounge-like setting. Transformer's *FlatFile* was launched in spring 2007 and consists of a growing collection of over 200 artworks in a variety of two-dimensional mediums including photography, painting, drawing and printmaking approximately 16" x 20" in size and smaller. Featuring works by regionally, nationally and internationally based emerging artists, the program is open to both artists that have exhibited with Transformer in the past and those who are new to Transformer. Artists are invited into the program via a Transformer staff led submission process. Works are made available year round to audiences for viewing and purchase at Transformer's gallery space and via traveling exhibitions. Works are rotated on a yearly basis.

ARTISTS' BIOS:

Mariah Anne Johnson is a native of Little Rock, Arkansas, where she spent her childhood attending art classes at the Arkansas Arts Center. She went on to study art at Rice University and earned her MFA from the University of Illinois in 2006. Mariah's paintings and installations have been exhibited in solo and group shows around the country, from Los Angeles and San Francisco to Houston, Chicago, and Washington, DC. During spring 2012, she served as the Artist in Residence at the Cafritz Foundation Center for the Arts at Montgomery College. Recent projects include: *In the Pines*, a solo exhibition currently on view at Flashpoint Gallery in downtown DC; installations in group exhibitions such as *Site Aperture* (Flashpoint, 2011) and *Space is the Place* (Carroll Square Gallery, 2012); and *Porch Projects*, a domestic exhibition space she runs in a spare room of her house in the Capitol Hill neighborhood of Washington, DC. Mariah first exhibited her work in DC at Transformer as part of the *Here & Now* exhibition (2008).

Heather Ravenscroft holds a BFA from Frostburg State University. Heather works for Friends of the National Zoo, the non-profit that helps to raise funds to support The Smithsonian National Zoological Park in Washington, DC. She is currently working towards an MFA with American University. Heather works mostly in drawing, but utilizes multiple mediums within her work.

Andrew Kozlowski received his BFA from the Tyler School of Art, Temple University and his MFA from Virginia Commonwealth University. His prints and drawings have been included in numerous exhibitions throughout the United States, including solo exhibitions at the Print Center in Philadelphia, Mary Baldwin College in Staunton Virginia and most recently at Studio 23 in Richmond Virginia. From 2011-2012 he was a Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Professional Fellow.

Image credit left to right:

Mariah Anne Johnson, *Tornado*, 2009, bed sheets and plastic chair, 4'x 3'x 3'

Heather Ravenscroft, *Birthday: June 04, 2012*, 2012, graphite on paper, 18 x 24"

Andrew Kozlowski, *The Night Watch*, 2012, screen-print, 10 x 13"

t r a n s f o r m e r 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 2012/2013 Exhibition Series and programs are supported by: The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The CrossCurrents 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 – individual donors, members of our Annual Auction Host Committee, and Corporate Sponsors.

1404 P Street NW Washington, DC 20005 | 202.483.1102 | www.transformerdc.org