

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLBY BIRD: Dust Breeds Contempt

Lora Reynolds Gallery

September 9 – November 26, 2011

Opening Reception: Friday September 9, 2011 5-7pm; Artist talk begins at 6pm

Lora Reynolds Gallery is pleased to present our first solo exhibition by Colby Bird entitled 'Dust Breeds Contempt'.

The works in this exhibition seek to establish an equivalence between three distinct phases of their own existence: the creation of the artwork, the display of the artwork, and the adaptation and ageing that the artwork undergoes in the hands of the eventual owner. These phases are presented as non-hierarchical--the aesthetic and contextual changes of the works during each phase are of equal importance.

Bird has authored a specific combination of physical variations to accompany each work in the exhibition. These variances prevent the works from ever truly being static objects, and disallow any definitive formal or conceptual solution, thus equalizing the labor of the work's creation and the labor of the work's subsequent alteration. The concept of "measurable efforts" is central to Bird's sculptural practice, and relics of this effort (scuffs, dust, cuts, etc) imbue the works with existentially essential concepts such as logic, balance, and gravity.

Bird has chosen to display only a single photograph in the exhibition space, switched out daily, or at the viewers' request, from a cache of seven images. The shelved and angled presentation of the photos allows for the accumulation of dust on the surface of the glass, and is a nod to the Man Ray photograph *Dust Breeding*, in which he photographed the gathering of dust on a pane of glass that was later used in Duchamp's *The Bride Stripped Bare by Her Bachelors, Even (La mariée mise à nu par ses célibataires, même, 1915-1923)*. This relationship of image to object, and the documentation of a sculptural work in progress made into an iconic artwork itself, holds special significance for Bird; the relationship between these two artworks has served as both a model and inspiration for his work.

Colby Bird was born in Austin, Texas and currently lives and works in New York. He is included in a number of private and public collections, including the Whitney Museum of American Art. Bird's work will also be on view at Arthouse at the Jones Center, as part of the group exhibition organized by the Aspen Art Museum titled: 'The Anxiety of Photography,' up through December 30, 2011.

We are also pleased to announce an exhibition of new painted portraits by Jim Torok in the Project Room, opening alongside Colby Bird's 'Dust Breeds Contempt.' The exhibition, entitled 'Walton,' presents several, intimate and meticulous oil paintings depicting the artist's friends and neighbors in Walton, New York. The extended amount of time Torok has spent in this small upstate town amongst the community is evident in the amount of detail given to each subject.

Jim Torok was born in South Bend, Indiana in 1954. He currently lives and works in Williamsburg, Brooklyn and Walton, New York with his wife, Mary Carlson. His work is included in many important private collections internationally, and has been shown in numerous exhibitions nationally. Torok's work has been acquired by many museums including the Museum of Modern Art, New York and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

'Dust Breeds Contempt' and 'Walton' will be on view at Lora Reynolds Gallery, 360 Nueces, Suite 50, Austin, Texas through November 26, 2011. Hours: Wednesday through Saturday, 11:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Images may be viewed on our website at [www.lorareynolds.com](http://www.lorareynolds.com).

For further information please contact Elizabeth Spheeris at 512-215-4965 or [info@lorareynolds.com](mailto:info@lorareynolds.com).

Upcoming at the gallery: Mads Lynnerup opening December 3, 2011.

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