



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Facts and Fictions

June 18 - July 18

Opening Reception: June 18, 7-9pm

Artists Talk: July 18, 5pm

Curated by Blair Murphy

Featuring work by Rob Chester, Chajana denHarder, Todd Gardener, Joseph Hale, Chandi Kelley, Matt Smith and Dafna Steinberg

Featuring work by the seven new members of DCAC's Sparkplug artist collective, *Facts and Fictions* highlights the tension between the real and the constructed, between the production of elaborate fictions and the documentation of a seemingly concrete reality. Working in painting, photography and mixed media, the artists in the exhibition blur the boundaries between documentation and creation. Fictional narratives and imagined characters inhabit fantastical worlds that nonetheless speak to everyday experiences and anxieties. In other instances, work created with an eye towards everyday human experience transforms otherwise ordinary moments into unfamiliar and surprising visions.

### About Sparkplug

Through Sparkplug, DCAC brings together local emerging artists and curators without gallery representation or institutional employ and provides them with support, meeting space, legal and technical resources and exhibition opportunities. Members of the collective meet monthly to discuss their work, pursue exhibition opportunities, plan studio visits and explore common interests and challenges. Because the intention of the program is to foster the growth of emerging and early-career artists, the collective itself will persist as new members join and others leave. After the successful first three years of the program, DCAC is excited to welcome seven new members to the group. Rob Chester, Chajana denHarder, Todd Gardener, Joseph Hale, Chandi Kelley, Matt Smith and Dafna Steinberg were all invited to join after responding to an open call released in March of 2010. The seven new members, along with one continuing member, curator Blair Murphy, will carry the program forward for the next two years.



The District of Columbia Arts Center is a nonprofit arts space dedicated to promoting the freshest, most under-recognized artists in the Washington metropolitan area. Comprised of a 750 square foot gallery and a 50 seat black box theater, DCAC has been in the heart of Adams Morgan since its founding in 1989. Its dynamic and eclectic visual arts exhibitions and performance events has received local, national and international reviews. We encourage an ongoing dialogue between new artists and the greater arts community and assist artists in both the business and craft of art. Poets, painters, actors, storytellers, sculptors, and performance artists from around the corner and around the world are drawn to DCAC and it remains a mainstay of the Washington, DC arts community.

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