

For more information:

CONTACT Eric Ford
P 802.865-5355
E eford@ci.burlington.vt.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Artist in Residence at BCA Center through February

Burlington, VT: (February 10, 2012) Now through Wednesday, February 29th, Burlington City Arts is pleased to announce the current BCA Center Fourth Floor *ArtLab* Artist in Residence, Burlington-based artist Grace Weaver. Grace will host open studio sessions on the Fourth Floor every Saturday through February from Noon-3pm. This will give visitors a chance to view the creative process, and speak with the artist about her work.

From Weaver's artist statement: "In my work, I am interested in overlaps between art historical iconography and the contemporary world. Taking a magpie approach to gathering visual information, I draw on forms ranging from Japanese woodcuts to 1950s American magazine illustration, German Expressionism to Persian miniature painting. Despite their simple cartoonish aesthetic, tensions between specificity and universality, empathy and provocation make these symbol-laden paintings deliberately undecipherable. In recent works, I am building paintings in reverse. I begin with the surface details—tracing the figure's outline onto glass in calligraphic brush-strokes. I then block in fields of value, covering the outline and building up a thick "skin" of paint in successive layers of acrylic. Once dry, I peel the skin off of the glass and stretch it over a wooden frame. Trapped in a flat plane of rubbery acrylic, my paintings' imaginary figures are frozen in acts of contemplation and attempted communication. The mystery of their poses ranges from the mysterious to the comic.

Grace Weaver is a Burlington, Vermont based artist. Her work has been featured in various places around Burlington and abroad in England and Istanbul. Grace graduated from the University of Vermont in 2011 with B.A. in Studio Art. Currently, Grace's work is featured in the BCA/Flynn Center group exhibition and auction, the *30/30 Anniversary Print Project* at The Amy E. Tarrant Gallery in Burlington. Grace is also holding a print fundraiser for a research trip to India, called *100 by 100*. 100 prints, silkscreened by New Duds in Colchester, will sell for \$100 each to fund her travels.

More information is at www.100x100project.blogspot.com

Grace Weaver artist website: www.tiiiny.blogspot.com

The BCA Center *ArtLab* was created in 2004 to invigorate the dialogue between artists and the viewing public in downtown Burlington. After four successful residencies, BCA temporarily closed the fourth floor due to necessary renovations. However, in spring of 2007, the residency program was re-launched. Artists are invited to submit a proposal for the available residency periods, which range from one to three months in duration. During this time, artists can use the beautiful fourth floor studio at the BCA Center as well as Burlington City Arts' clay, photography, and printmaking studios. The resident works with Burlington City Arts staff to offer a workshop, lecture, or special project that engages the public in his/her creative process. The ideal applicant should be a local artist with a history of formally or conceptually rigorous work, excellent communication skills and enthusiasm for interacting with the public.

The *ArtLab* Artist in Residence Program at The BCA Center is an important part of Burlington City Arts, celebrating 30 years of supporting the arts, 1981-2011. For more information about gallery exhibitions, special events, classes and workshops, please call 802.865.7166 or visit BURLINGTONCITYARTS.ORG.

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