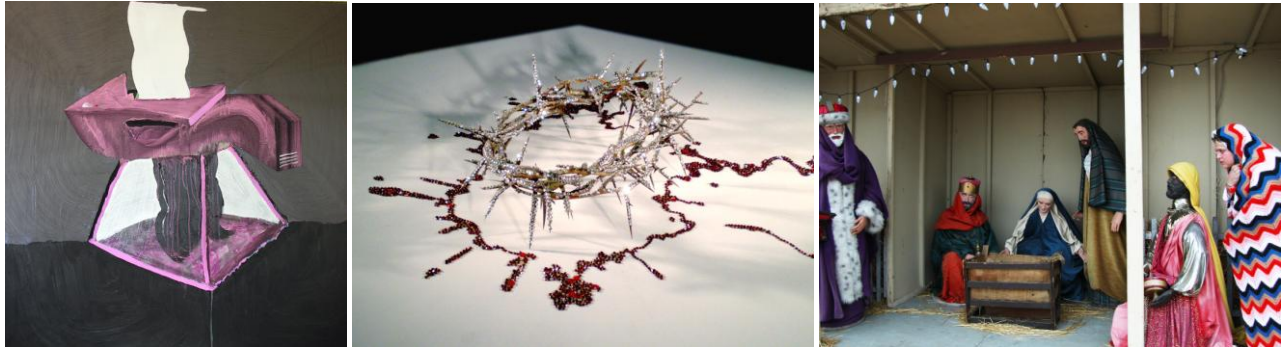




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**CHARLOTTE STREET FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2009 VISUAL ARTIST AWARDS FELLOWS
THREE KANSAS CITY ARTISTS – DYLAN MORTIMER, JAIMIE WARREN, AND ANDRZEJ ZIELINSKI –
AWARDED UNRESTRICTED CASH GRANTS OF \$10,000 EACH**

Charlotte Street Foundation is pleased to announce the selection of three Kansas City artists to receive unrestricted cash Awards of \$10,000 each in 2009. Selected by a panel of local and national curators from a pool of 34 nominated artists, the recipients are **Dylan Mortimer, Jaimie Warren** and **Andrzej Zielinski**.

Charlotte Street Foundation has now recognized 68 Kansas City based visual artists with Charlotte Street Visual Artist Awards, with a total of \$422,500 in unrestricted case grants distributed directly to the artists over twelve years. An exhibition of the work of the 2009 Charlotte Street Awards recipients will be presented at the H & R Block Artspace in fall, 2009.

The Charlotte Street Awards recognize locally based artists who are creating outstanding artwork, and provide financial support, critical attention, and increased exposure for these artists with the aim of fostering their continued artistic and professional development. Through the Visual Artist Awards, as well as new annual Generative Performing Artist Awards launched in 2008, Charlotte Street Foundation seeks to contribute to the vitality of Kansas City's art community and to enhance Kansas City's desirability as a place for artists to work and live.

About the artists:

Dylan Mortimer earned his B.F.A. at the Kansas City Institute of Art and his M.F.A. from the School of Visual Art, New York, New York. His work questions how expressions of private faith function in the public sphere, and explores the boundaries of what types of faith expressions are permitted versus prohibited. Employing a range of formal, cultural, and conceptual languages, Mortimer has most recently merged the iconographies and vocabularies of Christianity and Hip Hop culture in a continued investigation of how religious belief, popular culture, and social norms do and do not comfortably relate. Mortimer has presented public art installations in New York, NY; Indianapolis, IN; Jackson, TN; Chicago, IL; Bellingham, WA; Lawrence, KS; and Kansas City,



MO, including commissioned works for Avenue of the Arts and Art in the Loop Foundation. He has presented one-person shows at PS-122, New York; Boots Contemporary Art Space, St. Louis; and Vlepo Gallery, New York; as well as Leedy-Voukos Art Center, the Cube @ Beco, Kansas City Jewish Museum Epsten Gallery, all in Kansas City. His work has been featured in group shows at venues including Dumbo Arts Center, Brooklyn, NY; Artists Space, New York, NY; Longwood Arts Gallery, Bronx, NY; David Zwirner, New York, NY; University of Massachusetts Amherst Fine Art Center, MA; Street Level Sculpture Competition, Cedar Rapids, IA; and H&R Block Artspace, Kansas City, MO.

Jaimie Warren is a photographer, curator, and performance artist, who makes theatrical, humorous, self-portraits in different scenarios and locations. In addition to candid, snapshot style photographs documenting her own life and surroundings, Warren is the creator of Whoop Dee Doo, an ongoing curatorial and performance-based project that creates a wild platform for diverse community talents and participants in a kid-friendly, faux public access television program format.

Warren attended the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design and received her B.F.A. from the Kansas City Art Institute. Her work has been presented in solo exhibitions at Higher Pictures in New York, White Flag Projects in St. Louis, and Telephonebooth Contemporary Art in Kansas City, as well as in group exhibitions at venues including Le Lieu Unique, Nantes, France; Smith-Stewart, New York; Getsumin, Osaka; Beida University, Beijing; David Castillo Annex, Miami; Van Abbemuseum Eindhoven, the Netherlands; Colette, Paris, France; and Max Wigram Gallery, London. Whoop Dee Doo has travelled to Deitch Projects, New York, NY; Rocket Projects, Miami Fl; and Bemis Center for Contemporary Art, Omaha, NE. Warren's photographs have been published nationally and internationally, including in "Don't You Feel Better," a book of her self-portraits published by Aperture in 2008.



Andrzej Zielinski received his B.F.A. from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2002 and his M.F.A. from Yale University in 2004. Of his paintings of laptops, paper shredders, and ATM Machines, painter/writer Joe Fyfe wrote in BOMB magazine:



“Zielinski is in league with a number of young painters...who unite painterly abstraction with the language of caricature... He is said to “unite painterly abstraction with the language of caricature...Zielinski has not chosen these objects as motifs for painterly investigation so much as oil paint, crayons, panels, graphite, and paper are mediums utilized to help him define his attitude toward these singular objects...The intensely prosthetic relationship many of us have developed with our laptops is reflected in Zielinski’s discovery that it is impossible for him to create a stable image of one of them.”

Zielinski has had solo exhibitions at Nicole Klagsburn Gallery, New York; Marc Selwyn Fine Art, Los Angeles; and Dolphin Gallery, Kansas City. His work has been included in curated

group shows including “Greater New York” at P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, Long Island City, NY; “Homecoming” at the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS; “Possessed: Representations of Single Objects” at Dorsky Gallery, Long Island City, NY; and “Blender” at Sundram Tagore Gallery, New York.

Selection Process:

A rotating panel of Awards Advisors is responsible for selecting Charlotte Street Foundation Awards Fellows each year. The 2009 committee included three local advisors: **Bruce Hartman**, Director, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art; **James Martin**, Independent Curator and Art Writer; and **Stacy Switzer**, Artistic Director, Grand Arts. This year’s two Visiting Curators/National Advisors were **Russell Ferguson** - Chair, UCLA Department of Art; former Deputy Director and Chief Curator, Hammer Museum, LA and **Valerie Cassel Oliver** - Curator, Museum of Contemporary Art Houston. Charlotte Street Foundation Founder/Director David Hughes, Jr. and Associate Director Kate Hackman oversee the selection process but are not voting members of the Committee.

Each of the Awards Advisors nominated a selection of Kansas City area artists for consideration. Nominations were also invited from a panel of Community Advisors, which this year included **Porter Arneill**, Director/Public Art Administrator, Municipal Arts Commission; **Rachael Blackburn Cozad**, Director and CEO, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art; **Cody Critcheloe**, lead singer and mastermind of the band SSION; **Deanna Dikeman**, Instructor at the University of Missouri and freelance photographer; **Elijah Gowin**, Associate Professor at the University of Missouri – Kansas City, where he directs photographic studies; and **Carol and Todd Haenish**, local art collectors. Community Advisors are selected annually by the Awards Advisors.

A non-profit organization, Charlotte Street Foundation (CSF) supports and recognizes outstanding artists in Kansas City; presents, promotes, enhances, and encourages the visual and performing arts; and fosters economic development in the urban core of Kansas City, Mo. On all levels, CSF places artists at the center of its mission and has built an infrastructure that depends on and reflects their involvement. As a result, we are an organization that continually evolves in response to their input and in relation to the city’s larger cultural ecosystem. For more about Charlotte Street Foundation and its activities, visit www.charlottestreet.org.

Images featured:

Pg. 1 top, left to right:

Andrzej Zielinski, *Rosso Paper Shredder*, 2008, mixed media on canvas, 48x48”; Dylan Mortimer, *The Most Ballin’ Crown of Thorns Ever*, 2008, thorns, rhinestones, 12x12x7”; Jaimie Warren, *Untitled, Self Portrait, Nativity Scene #2*, 2007, color photograph, 30x40”.

Additional images:

Dylan Mortimer, *Can’t Knock the Hustle*, 2008, painted wood, metal, lights.

Jaimie Warren, *Whoop Dee Doo with Deitch Projects*, New York, NY, performance documentation, 2008.

Andrzej Zielinski, *Arancione Paper Shredder*, 2008, mixed media on canvas, 48x48”