

# CIVILIAN

## ART PROJECTS

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CIVILIAN ART PROJECTS is pleased to begin the New Year with two spirited solo exhibitions: Carole Wagner Greenwood's "Ghosts and Circumstance" and Dame Darcy's "Gasoline." The exhibitions will open to the public January 9, 2009 and will be on view until February 7, 2009. Exhibition hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 12 to 6 p.m. There will be an opening reception for the artists on Friday, January 9, 2009 from 7pm to 10pm with a free music performance at 9pm.



### Carole Wagner Greenwood GHOSTS AND CIRCUMSTANCE

In her first solo exhibition in six years, Washington, DC-based artist and chef Carole Wagner Greenwood exhibits new sculpture made from plaster, beeswax, and found materials. The artist has created new pieces of varying scale, unselfconsciously conjuring meaning and memory through the nuanced and investigative practice of one who routinely brings things to fruition by hand. The finished pieces are amorphous and strong, surrendering to and rebelling against the

boundaries of the objects (wood, steel, globes) that contain them. According to writer Brad McKee, "the organic secrets of food are symmetrically subdued into her voluptuous design, but the minerality of plaster offers adequate resistance to her whims and evokes entirely different chords of visceral respect, a dimension where she may confront not perfection...but the fugitive nature of doubt. Her theater of *nouriture* is in essence restorative, but her manipulations in plaster are purposefully feral and invasive, intended, she has remarked, to 'disturb the viewer in a positive way.'"

Since 1996, Ms. Greenwood has operated her restaurant, Greenwood -- now called Buck's Fishing and Camping -- with her business partner and co-owner James Alefantis. Greenwood received the first Anne Crutcher Fellowship from Les Dames d'Escoffier with which she studied cuisine and pastry at Le Cordon Bleu, LaVarenne and Lenotre, all in Paris. She worked as sous chef to Jonathan Waxman at JAMS in London while cooking with Annie Bell, now food editor at The Times of London, at The Tearoom at Books for Cooks off the Portobello Road. She was nominated for a James Beard Award in 2008. Greenwood graduated from the University of Richmond with a degree in political science where she also studied sculpture with Demetrios Mavroudis. She has studied sculpture at The Corcoran School of Art and Design and is a member of Margaret Boozer's Seminar at Red Dirt Studio, in Mt. Rainier, Maryland. Her work has been exhibited at Lucky 13, Millenium Arts Center, Hemphill Fine Arts, Fusebox, The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Transformer and Strand on Volta and is held in many private collections.

Poetry and prose by Brad McKee, Casey Smith, and Bernard Welt accompany the sculptural work in the exhibition.

## Dame Darcy GASOLINE

"In a post-apocalyptic world, the search for precious gasoline pits a family of orphaned witches against conniving nihilists who lurk in the decaying urban sprawl..."

In the fall of 2008, Merrell Publishing released the graphic novel "Gasoline," by Dame Darcy - fine artist, musician, performer and creator of the well-loved, long-running comic "Meat Cake." Civilian Art Projects is pleased to host an exhibition featuring selected original works from "Gasoline" courtesy of Sloan Fine Art in New York. Signed copies of "Gasoline" will be available at Civilian Art Projects throughout the exhibition.

With the book's emotional story and Dame Darcy's intricate, romantic style, the original works from "Gasoline" stand alone as compelling individual pieces. Installed in succession in the gallery, they create a powerful visual narrative of "danger, heartbreak and the perseverance of magic and love." Dame Darcy's previous graphic novel projects include "Frightful Fairytales" (Ten Speed Press) and "The Illustrated Jane Eyre" (Putnam Penguin USA). She is also included in the upcoming "Comic Book Tattoo," a comic compilation illustrating the songs of Tori Amos (Image comics 2008). Darcy's paintings and works on paper have been exhibited at Richard Heller Gallery in Los Angeles, The Cartoon Art Museum in San Francisco, CWC in Tokyo and with Gelatin in Austria.



CIVILIAN ART PROJECTS, an art gallery based in Washington, D.C. supports the voice and vision of the artist through exhibitions, events, and collaborations in D.C. and abroad. The gallery is located in the Penn Quarter neighborhood in downtown Washington near many major museums, galleries, and national treasures.