

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ***Heavy Fierce Brightness***

September 5 - 27, 2008

Opening Reception, September 5, 2008, 6 – 9 PM

**Oakland, CA** - Chandra Cerrito Contemporary is pleased to present *Heavy Fierce Brightness*, a solo exhibition of work by Colin Stinson, on view September 5 – 27, 2008. The opening reception will be held Friday, September 5 from 6 – 9 PM in conjunction with Oakland's Art Murmur.

Colin Stinson, an artist based in San Francisco and New York, premieres his installation *Heavy Fierce Brightness* at Chandra Cerrito Contemporary. Stinson received his MFA from the California College of Art and his BA from San Francisco State University. His work has been recently exhibited at Lulubel Gallery in Tucson, AZ and Invisible NYC Gallery in New York City. He has also exhibited at Southern Exposure Gallery in San Francisco and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Santa Rosa, CA. In addition, Stinson is well known for his popular "CS Drop Shops" that meld fashion, art and culture at the former Rocket World in San Francisco and its various incarnations at ComiCon International in San Diego, CA. He has also served as a participant in the Djerassi Artist in Residence Program in Woodside, CA.

Stinson's work has historically bridged intellectual and cultural zones that seem incongruous at first—science (string theory, quantum mechanics, ecological collapse), religion, militarism, rock, tattoo art, comic books, easel paintings, skateboards, bicycles and muscle cars. He is inspired by a diversity of sources that extend from skater culture to military hand weapon technologies, from the prints of Hokusai to contemporary manga. His philosophical interests can be linked to Zen Buddhism, particle physics and modern medical research. Stinson's artwork takes many forms, from traditional drawing and painting to robotics, sculpture and sound. He has also created skateboard skins, clothing, jewelry, bicycles and iconic high performance motorcycles and cars.

# Chandra Cerrito Contemporary

25 Grand Avenue Oakland, CA

*Heavy Fierce Brightness* is an encompassing environment with sculpture and sound elements. Upon walking into the space one is confronted with a fiberglass sculpture of an iridescent violet toad creature wearing a Japanese *sandogasa* (umbrella hat) pulling a large fishing net towards a stairway leading to the gallery's skylight. This creature, modeled on the endangered Surinamese *Atelopus* is associated with psychedelic secretions from its skin. Within the net are a full stack of 100 watt Marshall guitar amplifiers. The primitive drone emitted from the amps is a commissioned music composition by the band GOG. The low frequency, rumbling, bass heavy sound has cinematic import; it vibrates the body cavity of the viewer.

The installation components are juxtapositions of Japanese culture, myth, an endangered species, Hieronymous Bosch and rock and roll. It portrays a journey and a struggle against the undertow of power that prevents entry into an abyss of light and ultimate knowledge.

Chandra Cerrito Contemporary  
25 Grand Avenue, upper level  
Oakland, CA

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September 5 - 27, 2008

Opening Reception:

Friday, September 5, 2008

6 – 9 PM

Open to the public

New Hours:

First Fridays, 6 – 9 PM

Fridays 4 – 7 PM, Saturdays 12 - 3 PM

And by appointment

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High-resolution images are available by contacting Cheri Fornaro,  
(401) 218-7551, [cheri@chandracerito.com](mailto:cheri@chandracerito.com).

**Colin Stinson, *Heavy Fierce Brightness*  
mock-ups of installation elements**

