

For Immediate Release

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InLiquid's Solo Exhibition Series Presents

Lauren Simonutti at the Painted Bride Café Gallery and

Colette Copeland at Nexus Foundation for Today's Art, Community Gallery

March 5 – April 24, 2004

(Philadelphia, February 2004) Beginning March 5, 2004, InLiquid presents the fourth installment of its Solo Exhibition Series, with concurrent exhibitions at the Painted Bride Café Gallery and Nexus Foundation for Today's Art, Community Gallery: Lauren Simonutti, *The Politics of Injury* at the Painted Bride, and Colette Copeland's untitled installation, at Nexus. Both exhibitions open to the public on March 5, 2004 and continue through April 24. There will be receptions on First Fridays, March 5 and April 2, from 5 to 7 pm at Painted Bride and from 6 to 9 pm at Nexus. Both exhibitions may be previewed online at www.inliquid.com.

Lauren Simonutti's *The Politics of Injury* will be presented in two sections at the Painted Bride Art Center Café Gallery, 230 Vine Street, Philadelphia. This exhibition brings together two photographic bodies of work for Simonutti, "Drowning Not Waving" and "Home." Drawing on an object's ability to evoke a narrative, Simonutti's two series "explore the possibility that objects left behind can speak for those who have willingly or unwillingly departed." "Drowning Not Waving," a 31 page book layout, examines those objects left behind by suicide victims "in the hope that these objects will speak to us in lieu of the notes that were not left." In "Home," a collection of black and white contact prints, Simonutti's muse is an abandoned house where the "objects which remain are all that serve to represent the life it held."

Lauren E. Simonutti graduated from the University of the Arts, Philadelphia, in 1990 with a BFA in Photography. She currently resides in Baltimore, Maryland.

Colette Copeland's installation will be presented at Nexus Foundation for Today's Art, Community Gallery, 137 N. Second Street, 2nd floor, Philadelphia. In her newest body of work, Copeland has transformed the gallery into a child-size living room constructed from cast rubber Vienna sausages. This pseudo food serves as "a metaphor to address consumption as it relates to both personal narratives from my childhood and larger socio-economic issues of gender, class and enculturation." Through the manipulation of surface, texture, and (re)creation of space, Copeland humorously questions the embedded notions of American consumerism and consumption.

Colette Copeland, a multi-media installation artist received a BFA from Pratt Institute and a MFA from Syracuse University. She teaches photography, critical theory, and photographic criticism at the University of the Arts and University of Pennsylvania. She has participated in numerous exhibitions over the past year. Highlights include: The Fringe Festival in Philadelphia, Nexus Gallery and Soho Photo Gallery in New York City, Delaware Center for Contemporary Art, Loyola College Art Gallery in Baltimore, Womanmade Gallery in Chicago, Jones Center for Contemporary Art in Austin, College of New Jersey Art Gallery, Silver Eye Center for Photography in Pittsburgh, and Icebox Gallery in Minneapolis. Ms. Copeland also writes for the quarterly publications *The Photo Review* and *Fotophile*. In addition to her other activities, Ms. Copeland is the chairperson of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Society for Photographic Education.

About the Series

InLiquid.com has expanded its programming for the 2003-04 exhibition season. In place of the previous "InLiquid at the Bride" themed group exhibition series in the Painted Bride's Café Gallery, InLiquid invited a jury of prominent local curators to select members of InLiquid.com for two-month solo exhibitions at both the Bride and at the Community Gallery of Nexus Foundation for Today's Art. The intention of this expanded format is to provide more substantial real-life exhibition spaces to artist members of InLiquid.com while providing exhibition programming for the two venues. The Painted Bride's Café Gallery will feature two-dimensional wall work, and installation-based artists will be presented in the Nexus Community Gallery.

The curators who selected the series were: Julie Courtney, independent curator; Elyse Gonzales, Assistant Curator, ICA; Kevin Reay, artist and curator of Pogozone.net; Jacqueline Van Rhyn, Curator of Prints and Photographs, The Print Center; and Amy Schlegel, formally curator, The Philadelphia Art Alliance, currently Director of Galleries and Collections, Tufts University.

Not only an online presence, InLiquid aims to enliven our real-world cultural landscape by enhancing visibility and opportunities for artists, creating new venues for the exchange of ideas, and actively encouraging the public to experience contemporary art in all its forms.