

“New World Order”

New work by Efren Candelaria and Steve Reber

Dirt Gallery
2039 W 21st St. Apt #1F
Chicago, IL 60608
January 2011

“New World Order” features work from two Chicago artists Efren Candelaria and Steve Reber.

Reber’s work for this exhibition continues to explore themes in 20th century architecture and design tropes. Prefabricated and common building materials are paired with found objects, creating tactile and oddly familiar object/spaces that suggest personal histories rooted in both enchantment and apprehension.

Candelaria’s current work fuses his propensity for meditative mark making with an element of happenstance. With the circle taking the role of the mark Candelaria repurposes castoff images and other unexpected surfaces simultaneously sequestering them for his purposes and re-invigorating them with his outcomes.

Together Reber and Candelaria’s work present two views on the world as it is arranged reinforcing the dichotomy between order as comfort and order as restriction.

Reber has been active in Chicago as a sculptor and educator since the mid 1990’s. He has exhibited in Chicago at a number of venues including the Illinois State Museum, Evanston Art center, NIU Gallery, Bodybuilder and Sportsman and COMA He is currently represented by Peter Miller Gallery. Exhibitions outside Chicago include Road Agent Gallery and Cadd Art lab, Dallas Texas, C Grimaldis Gallery, Baltimore MD and Winston Gallery, Washington DC. He has received numerous grants for his work including The State of Illinois Arts Council and Artadia fund for Art and dialogue. Reber will be exhibiting at The Chicago Cultural center in 2011.

Candelaria is a Puerto Rican born artist living and working in Chicago. He has a degree in Painting from University of Miami, Miami Florida, has exhibited solo in Santa Fe New Mexico at Signature Modern, in Miami Florida at Signature Gallery and in San Juan Puerto Rico with The Storehouse Group and has been featured in group exhibitions at Art Basel Miami, CIRCA in San Juan Puerto Rico, Art Los Angeles and SCOPE New York.