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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 1, 2007

Catharine Clark Gallery, now at 150 Minna Street, between 3rd and New Montgomery
Concurrent Solo Exhibitions: *Packard Jennings: The Pitch of Dissent* and *Kara Maria: Dystopia*

January 19 – March 1, 2008

Opening Reception: Saturday, January 19, 4 – 6pm

Panel Discussion: Saturday, February 9, 2pm

Pulse New York, Pier 40

March 27 – 30, 2008



Packard Jennings



Kara Maria

San Francisco, CA: Catharine Clark Gallery announces the upcoming concurrent solo exhibitions of new work by Packard Jennings and new paintings by Kara Maria. The exhibition dates are January 19 – March 1, 2008. An opening reception for the artists is Saturday, January 19, 4-6pm. A panel discussion, moderated by Ray Beldner and produced in collaboration with Bernal Bubbles, will be held at the gallery on Saturday, February 9, 2pm.

In *The Pitch of Dissent* Packard Jennings continues to undermine corporate interests by engaging the public in subversive activities. His second solo exhibition with Catharine Clark Gallery will feature his “Creative Dissent Workstation,” an area in the gallery equipped with all the necessary items to document visitor engagement with Jennings’s participatory acts of rebellion. Through the artist’s website, www.centennialsociety.com, one may download templates to fabricate headlines for distribution in street side newspaper machines, print out a sticker for distribution in nightstand Bibles that exposes Creationism’s tenuous relationship to fact, or create a falsified coupon for insertion into Walgreen’s weekly specials. Participants are encouraged to document their engagement with these projects and include their own documentation in the exhibition. Also featured in the exhibition is Jennings’s new limited edition action figure “Anarchist Action Figure,” 2008. It comes equipped with a rebel’s tool kit, including a Molotov cocktail and bolt cutters. A new animated video series will be shown in the Video Project Room along with original illustrations and print projects. Packard Jennings’s has garnered critical attention across a variety of media, including *The New York Times*, *Artforum*, *Playboy*, and *The Washington Post*. His current collaboration with Steve Lambert, *Wish You Were Here! Postcards from Our Awesome Future*, was commissioned by the San Francisco Art Commission and is visible on Market Street kiosks in downtown San Francisco. Packard Jennings lives and works in Oakland, California.

Kara Maria pushes the limits of sensational imagery in a new body of paintings titled *Dystopia*. In this new series of paintings, the artist meticulously renders figures engaged in combat intermingling with figures engaged in explicit sexual activities. Hallmarks of the current political climate—such as burqa clad figures, gas-guzzling vehicles, fuel pumps—further

complicate the compositions that Maria loads with impasto paint and tessellated graphics. In the painting “Hot and Bothered” a number of transnational militant figures stand armed, the muzzles of their weapons becoming visual puns for the central compositional element of a black dildo penetrating a disembodied orifice. Through this juxtaposition of politically charged simulacra Maria challenges the viewer to consider the ways in which the psychology of combat is obfuscated by sexual energy, evidenced most recently by the torture tactics at Abu Ghraib Prison. Kara Maria’s work has been included in group exhibitions at the Cantor Center at Stanford University, the Institute of Contemporary Art Boston, and Orange County Center for Contemporary Arts. Her work has garnered critical attention in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Art in America*. She lives and works in San Francisco.

About Catharine Clark Gallery: Established in 1991, Catharine Clark Gallery presents the work of contemporary artists. A wide range of media is represented in the gallery program with an emphasis on content driven work that challenges both the traditional use of materials and formal aesthetics. It is the only San Francisco gallery to date with a video project room. Exhibitions are hosted on a 4 – 6 week schedule and generally feature one or two solo artist exhibitions, in addition to video and viewing room installations. Additionally the gallery regularly participates in national and international art fairs in Miami, New York, London, and Brussels, among other cities. Housed in a former 1920s farming equipment warehouse, newly redesigned by Los Angeles-based architectural designer Tim Campbell, the gallery is situated among numerous arts-related landmark buildings in San Francisco’s Yerba Buena Neighborhood; it is adjacent to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), the Museum of the African Diaspora (MOAD), and is housed on the ground floor of the same historical building as SF Camerawork. The gallery is open Tuesday–Friday, 10:30am–5:30pm, and Saturday, 11am–5:30pm and regularly participates in the San Francisco Art Dealers Association’s First Thursday extended hours gallery walk on the first Thursday of the month, 6 – 8pm. For more information, please visit www.cclarkgallery.com or email info@cclarkgallery.com. Visit <http://cclarkgallery.blogspot.com/> for up-to-date information about exhibitions and reviews.

2008 Listings:

January 19 – March 1, 2008

Concurrent Solo Exhibitions: *Packard Jennings: The Pitch of Dissent* and *Kara Maria: Dystopia*

Opening Reception: Saturday, January 19, 4 – 6pm

Panel Discussion: Saturday, February 9, 2pm

March 8 – April 12, 2008

Solo Exhibition: Chester Arnold

Video Project Room: “Winchester Redux” by Jeremy Blake

March 27 – 30, 2008

Art Fair: Pulse New York, Pier 40 (Tribeca)

April – May 2008 (Exact dates TBD)

Concurrent Solo Exhibitions: Christoph Draeger and Reuben Lorch-Miller

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