

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## The Kipper and the Corpse

Lauren Anderson, Mike Andrews, Jessica Labatte and Montgomery Perry Smith

Curated by Elizabeth Chodos

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 – June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012

Gallery hours: Thursday, Friday, Saturday 11-5

**Opening Reception: Friday April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 6-8 pm**

Robert Bills Contemporary is pleased to announce the opening of the exhibition *The Kipper and the Corpse*. Trickery, transformation, deception, and humor are all tactics utilized by the artists in *The Kipper and the Corpse*. Working across a variety of media including drawing, collage, animation, sculpture, and photography, each of these artists skillfully abstract and disguise images and materials to create pictorial and sculptural games.

Lauren Anderson received a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2006) she currently lives and works in Chicago, IL. Recent exhibitions include *Faux Weirdo*, Golden Age, Chicago IL and *Gone Obviously into Cheap Romancing*, at Spudnick Press, Chicago IL.

Mike Andrews works through genres like a mad watchmaker furiously trying to get all the parts moving only to un-craft it the next day. By using a recurring cast of amorphous marks and suggestive bodies that appear in collages, tapestries, sculptures, and animations he concocts scenes and situations that vacillate between the puerile and the sophisticated. He has had exhibitions in galleries, artist-run spaces, and design boutiques in Chicago, New York, Oakland, Spain, and South Korea. His work has been featured in such publications as the Huffington Post, BUTT magazine, and Architectural Digest.

Jessica Labatte received her MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2009). Recent exhibitions include *12x12: Jessica Labatte*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago and *Always the Young Strangers*, Higher Pictures, New York. In the coming year the artist will have a solo exhibition at the Chicago Cultural Center.

Montgomery Perry Smith is a Chicago based sculpture artist. He received his BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2008. Since graduating, he has exhibited at threewalls, Co-Prosperity Sphere, and LVL3. Smith's most recent solo show was at Sabina Lee Gallery in Los Angeles. Smith was named one of Newcity's nine "Breakout Artists" of 2010 and was a Harold Arts resident from 2008-2010.

Robert Bills Contemporary is dedicated to finding and introducing artists in all media whose work embodies well-executed conceptual depth. The gallery is located in Chicago's West Loop at 222 North Desplaines Street at Lake Street on the lower level. For general inquiries please contact the Gallery Director, Hannah Klemm, at [hannah@robertbillscontemporary.com](mailto:hannah@robertbillscontemporary.com), or call 312.234.9091.