

Monika Malewska: Counterpoise

November 15 – February 23

This exhibition showcases the work of Monika Malewska, who joined the department of art and art history at Juniata in 2006 as assistant professor of fine arts. Malewska's work has been characterized as post-modernist, "which might," she says, "mean many things," reliance on contradiction, for one. Malewska "embraces" art history and at the same time likes "to have fun with it, to turn it upside down." Her paintings blur boundaries between traditional genres like still-life and narrative. They further blur boundaries between what are considered "high" and "low" forms of art. They rely on seductive, bright colors and on "playful, sweet images" to entice the viewer. But then, in the ways that familiar subjects are posed and juxtaposed, they suggest darker qualities and meanings: unease, manipulation, the insidiousness of our "culture of consumption." Yet always with a lightness of touch, Malewska works with layers of thinly-applied oil paints, and various glazes, to create luminous soft-focused surfaces for her paintings. Malewska refers to her work as "a psychological push and pull." And "full of contradiction," like life. The museum is pleased to introduce this compelling painter to the community.



Monika Malewska, *Pillsbury Doughboy and Barbie*, oil on panel, 2005, 8 x 10".
Image courtesy of the artist.

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Juniata College Museum of Art

1700 Moore Street
Huntingdon, PA 16652
Sept-April: M-F: 10-4; Sat: 12-4
May-August: W-F: 12-4

Nov. 15, 2007- Feb. 23, 2008
Image: *Hummingbirds and Bacon Roses*
Design, oil on board, 2007

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