



January 10, 2011

Leader of His Generation's Art

**Wayne White to Speak at Herron School
of Art and Design January 26**



*All images courtesy of the artist
and Western Project, Los Angeles*

Sometimes reality only seems to bite. For Wayne White, the realization that a degree in painting was not going to pay the bills when he moved to New York City in the early 80s led him in new directions. He gravitated to cartooning and illustrating, and as they say, “the rest is history”. Whether defined as a pop artist or surrealist, White is a leader of his generation’s art.

He caught the art world’s eye beginning with cartoons and illustrations in *The East Village Eye*, *Raw*, *The New York Times* and *The Village Voice*. He worked on *Pee Wee’s Playhouse* as a puppeteer and set designer, winning three Emmy® awards. He art directed the *Big Time* music video for Peter Gabriel and *Tonight, Tonight* for Smashing Pumpkins.

He began experimenting with landscapes by teaching himself oil-painting techniques. “The paintings started getting weirder and weirder,” he said in a 2007 *Esquire* interview. “I started putting monsters and stuff into them, but I kept the same realistic technique.” After further experimentation, White hit pay dirt.

He “put some words” directly on the painting. Friends were astounded at the boldness of the look. Today, his bold works of three-dimensional words over traditional bucolic scenery have the art world talking.

His book, *Maybe Now I’ll Get the Respect I So Richly Deserve*, co-authored with Todd Oldham, made its debut in an Ammo Books Popular Edition in June 2009. It’s described as “a welcome departure from the more-often-than-not self-aggrandizing art world”.

White’s appearance is supported through an endowment provided by the Christel DeHaan Family Foundation. Established in 2006, the Christel DeHaan Family Foundation Visiting Artist Lecture brings international artists, designers and scholars to Herron so that students and the broader public may have access to the wonder of the creative process. Previous lecturers in this series have included Julian Opie, Karl Wirsum, Mary Jane Jacob and Andrew Blauvelt.

(more)



January 10, 2011

PRESS CONTACT:

Glennnda McGann

Assistant Dean for Development
and External Affairs
Herron School of Art and Design, IUPUI

Eskenazi Hall
735 W. New York St., HR224A
Indianapolis, IN 46202
317-278-9477
gmmcgann@iupui.edu

White's lecture will be on Wednesday, January 26, at 5:30 p.m. in the Basile Auditorium of Eskenazi Hall. His work will be featured along with the work of Casey Riordan Millard and Sarah Emerson in *Curious and Curiouser*, an exhibition opening January 21 in the main galleries at Herron. These events are free and open to the public.

Parking Information

Guests of Herron School of Art and Design should park in the Sports Complex Garage, just west of Herron. Park in the visitor side of the garage and bring your garage ticket to the Herron Galleries for parking validation, courtesy of The Great Frame Up. Parking in the surface lot requires an IUPUI parking permit.

XXX