A Moratorium On Make-Believe
What is the restlessness that took us in sailing ships across fathomless oceans? I see that quality in this group. Their unrest moves and motivates them to explore new ideas, new places in the mind, and new possibilities for art. Their practices are diverse, varying from orchestrated spectacles to understated ephemera, from split personalities to discreet objects, and from informal economies to invented mythologies. What links them, however, is a serious playfulness. Unwilling to settle, they thrive in an open-ended practice. The exploration, experiment and inquiry is as important as any resulting artifacts.

Chris Beauregard offers unhurried glimpses of a parallel world where everything is slightly and worryingly off kilter. These worlds are fantastic, hinting at a happier place than what we call reality.

In her videos Michelle Fried creates scenarios, which alternate between cuteness and grotesquery. In her affectedly constructed sets, ill behaved characters become disturbingly unhinged.

With the help of friends and strangers, Ben Kinsley stages mischievous and humorous performances. By entering his world, you find yourself in the power of a manipulative, but likeable puppet master, toying on the edge of anarchy.

Eileen Maxson inhabits televised worlds as various personas, each with something to say and something to hide. Through video and installation, she subversively examines how we are all in thrall to a mediated version of reality.

John Peña is bewitched by the poetry of wandering clouds and aimless letters to the ocean. He transforms the experience of the everyday through ephemeral and humane gestures.

Ally Reeves has generosity, collaboration and accessibility at the heart of her practice. Always mobile, she peddles, pushes, and scavenges for the benefit of all and sundry.

I feel privileged to have shared some time along the road with these people. They will all go far and I wish them well on their journeys.

John Carson, Regina Gouger Miller and Marlin Miller Jr. Professor of Art and Head of the School of Art March 2008

Thanks to the Miller Gallery team of Petra Fallaux, Margaret Cox and Cara Erskine for all their help.
This page was intentionally left blank.
For further information on the Master of Fine Arts Program at Carnegie Mellon University please contact:

SCHOOL OF ART
Carnegie Mellon University
5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412.268.2409
www.artserver.cfa.cmu.edu

REGINA GOUGER MILLER GALLERY
Purnell Center for the Arts
Carnegie Mellon University
5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
15213-3890
www.cmu.edu/millergallery
412.268.3618
Open Tuesday - Sunday, 11:30am - 5:00pm

MFA 2008
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20
OPENING RECEPTION MARCH 21, 5-8 PM

GRAND TOUR
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 6:30 - 8 PM
(Tour will start at the Miller Gallery and end at the Panther Hollow Inn)

Miller Gallery Carnegie Mellon

The exhibitions and programs at the Miller Gallery are supported in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as well as the School of Art and the College of Fine Arts at Carnegie Mellon University.