



CONTEMPORARY IMAGES IN PRINT SINCE 1915

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Sweet Meat: Jesse Burke & Nils Ericson

March 17 – May 21, 2011

Thursday, March 17: Reception 5:30-7:30pm

PHILADELPHIA: The Print Center announces *Sweet Meat*, a two-person exhibition of photographs by artists Jesse Burke and Nils Ericson. Long-time friends, Burke and Ericson have created individual bodies of work that are closely intertwined. By placing these two artists' works side by side, this exhibition provides an in-depth exploration of their distinctive depictions of contemporary masculinity and athleticism.

Though their work shares various sensibilities, the exhibited photographs were selected to exemplify the distinct interests of these two artists. While both artists have created bodies of work that are varied in subject and mood, each has also made an extensive investigation of the male figure, from heroic ideals of masculinity to honest depictions revealing the vulnerabilities of aging men. For this exhibition, the artists have collaboratively designed an installation that combines their work in clusters that populate the walls of two of The Print Center's gallery spaces.

Both Burke and Ericson jump between multiple modes of working, each making landscapes, still-lives and portraits. Many of Burke's photographs show figures emerging from inky blackness, drawing our attention to specific details: a Baroque patterned hooded sweatshirt, a shot-gunned beer, a man's emaciated chest. In Ericson's photographs, there is a taut edginess, where athleticism is paired ambiguously with violence and death. Burke and Ericson have often used each other as models and they both appear in several of the exhibition's works.

Burke and Ericson both received their MFAs from the Rhode Island School of Design. Burke is represented by CLAMPART, New York, and his work is included in *The Truth is Not in the Mirror*, a group exhibition on view at the Haggerty Museum, Milwaukee, WI. A solo exhibition of his work is on view at the Perth Center for Photography, Perth, Australia. Ericson's work was included recent exhibitions at Daniel Cooney Fine Art, New York and Flanders Gallery, Raleigh, NC.

Sweet Meat: Jesse Burke & Nils Ericson will be on view at The Print Center from March 17 – May 21, 2011. The reception for the artist is Thursday, March 17 from 5:30-7:30pm, with a gallery talk by the artists at 5:30pm.

The Print Center supports printmaking and photography as vital contemporary arts and encourages the appreciation of the printed image in all its forms. The Print Center presents a variety of programs for the public including exhibitions; The Print Center Gallery Store, which offers the largest and most diverse selection of contemporary prints in Philadelphia; the longest running annual international competition for prints and photographs in the country; and an extensive series of education programs and special events.

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