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Nevin Kelly Gallery

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NEVIN KELLY GALLERY ANNOUNCES “A HISTORY OF DOGS AND WITCHES,” A SOLO EXHIBITION OF NEW WORKS BY LAUREL HAUSLER

Show runs October 15 through November 9, 2008; Opening Reception, Thursday, October 16 from 6 – 9 pm.

Local artist Laurel Hausler will exhibit a series of new works in “A History of Dogs and Witches” at Nevin Kelly Gallery, 1517 U Street, NW, Washington, DC. The show will run from October 15 through November 9, 2008. The gallery will host an opening reception with the artist on Thursday, October 16 from 6 until 9 o’clock p.m. The public is invited.

Laurel Hausler has forgone formal training in favor of developing her own style. She combines collage, assemblage, drawing and painting, using a wide variety of media including oil paint, paper, pencil, ink, wax, coffee, natural materials and found objects. Her style is narrative, heavily influenced by the limits imposed on her in Catholic schools and by a fondness for history. Hausler’s characters live in a world of dark ambiguity. Her paintings often appear haunting at first, but her message is typically more poignant and cheeky than macabre. Guided by her choice of medium, Hausler explains that her characters often push forth their own stories—a phenomenon she describes as “mysterious.”

“A History of Dogs and Witches” is a pastiche of beloved works of literature, movies, admired artists, observations from everyday life and strange nuances in history. For this show, the artist has created paintings, ink and watercolor drawings, sculpture and other works. Her fanciful witches—partially inspired by Quentin Blake's illustration for Roald Dahl's book *The Witches*—wear 1940's suit-coats and hats with veils. Alternately erudite, evil and beautiful, the works contain elements of narrative, fashion, history and theater.

“A History of Dogs and Witches” will be on view in the gallery from October 15 until November 9, 2008. The opening reception is on Thursday October 16 from 6:00 until 9:00 pm. The artist will be in attendance.

For additional information contact:

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