



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Thordis Adalsteinsdottir:** *A cheerful reminder of our lives and loves*

*Opening reception: Thursday, April 27, 2006  
April 27 - June 3, 2006*

**Stux Gallery** is proud to present a solo show of paintings by **Thordis Adalsteinsdottir**. This will be the third solo show at Stux Gallery by this Icelandic-born, New York based artist, whose idiosyncratic figurative paintings inhabit a peculiar zone somewhere between realist figuration, cartoons, anime and pure fantasy. The artist's subjects, both human and animal, are often represented as unsettling distortions of their natural forms.

Thordis Adalsteinsdottir creates her paintings in response to how conflicts, sometimes political, affect her personal state of being. Strong fields of color abut a sometimes heavily patterned, borderline decorative style of painting to represent hair, textiles, skin, and other organic pieces that are manifest in the works. The paintings create a charged negative space against large fields of color and pattern while conveying a wide range of emotional states of being, from painful loneliness and introspection to whimsy, eroticism and even bliss. Figures with elegantly elongated limbs and torsos embrace and conjure seemingly wild beasts that are, in reality, merely designer accessories such as the pug and the miniature pig.

Continuing the artist's in-depth exploration into the temporal and sometimes tumultuous world of deeply internalized abstracted figuration, these new works further a personal and ongoing dialogue concerning the fusion of aesthetics and psychological tension. On view are skillfully executed paintings that convey a troubled psyche. Evocative large and small-scale paintings explore the boundary between animal id and rational ego, the juxtaposition of which renders a strained equilibrium of abstraction and representation. The viewer is, indeed, afforded a rare voyeuristic view of turbulent inner landscapes.

Thordis Adalsteinsdottir is an Icelandic-born New York City based artist who studied in New York at the School of Visual Arts after graduating from the Icelandic Academy of Arts and the Universidad de Barcelona, in Spain. The artist has exhibited in galleries and museums nationally and internationally with exhibitions at The Reykjavik Art Museum, Reykjavik Iceland, Shoshana Wayne Gallery, LA, 101 Gallery, Reykjavik, Iceland, Laumeier Sculpture Park, Saint Luis, MO, The Fields Sculpture park at the Art Omi International Arts Center, NY.