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CONTACT: LOCKS GALLERY
215.629.1000 / 215.629.3868 fax
info@locksgallery.com

Jane Irish *Cochin Chinoiserie*

January 9–February 21, 2009

Opening Reception:
Friday, January 9
5:30–7:30pm

Gallery Hours:
Tuesday–Saturday, 10am–6pm



Ehrhart, *Souvenirs Vase*, 2008, low fire whiteware, china paint, lustre, and underglaze, 12 x 11 x 11 inches

December 2008, Philadelphia, PA – Locks Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of new vases and paintings by Jane Irish. *Cochin Chinoiserie* will be on view January 9th through February 21st, 2009. There will be a reception for the artist on Friday, January 9, 2009, from 5:30 to 7:30pm.

In her second exhibition at Locks Gallery, Jane Irish will show new vases - continuing to explore the politics and aftermath of the Vietnam War and the aesthetics of decadence. Irish will debut 10 new vases modeled after 18th- and 19th- century French Sevres porcelain which have images of Vietnamese landscapes and decorative detailing. These vases feature poetry by Vietnam Veterans, and noted visual arts writers, such as Vincent Katz, Carter Ratcliff and Tom Devaney. They will be seen against the backdrop of a large painting, incorporating protest imagery and rococo interiors - work for which the artist is known.

Irish, nominated in 2008 by The Print Center, received an Independence Foundation Fellowship and spent twenty-five days traveling and working in Vietnam. While there, Irish painted *en plein air*, capturing peaceful sites which once were the backdrop to combat during the Vietnam War. In coming to terms with the impact of American brutality and its legacy, Irish seeks the transcendent nature of art and “the universality of painting” in addressing the complicated history between the two nations.

(more)

600 Washington Square South
Philadelphia PA 19106
tel 215.629.1000 fax 215.629.3868
info@locksgallery.com
www.locksgallery.com

Irish received her MFA from Queens College, CUNY, and has exhibited in New York and Philadelphia since 1983. Irish's ceramic work can be seen in the Institute of Contemporary Art's exhibition, *Dirt on Delight: Impulses Which Form Clay* (Jan 16 - Mar 29, 2009), which travels to the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, MN. In 2002-03, Irish created a large-scale installation for the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts - her first solo museum exhibition, *History Lesson*.

Locks Gallery is located at 600 Washington Square South in Philadelphia, PA. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10am to 6pm. For additional information, please contact Locks Gallery at 215.629.1000 voice, 215.629.3868 fax, or info@locksgallery.com.

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