



A.M. Richard Fine Art • 328 Berry Street, 3rd floor • Brooklyn, NY 11211
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For immediate release:

Exhibition Announcement: ANDREW GARN: LOST AMAZON – Nature's Discontent
New Photographs and video
In The Project Room: CHRISTY RUPP: TOXIC MOLECULES
Sculptures
Opening Reception: **Friday March 12th -6-8pm, on view until April 18th, 2010**
Gallery Hours: Fri-Sun 1-6 pm • Weekdays by appointment

A.M. Richard Fine Art is pleased to announce an exhibition of new work by photographer Andrew Garn.

In the summer of 2008, Andrew Garn was assigned by the Smithsonian Institution to document biodiversity in a remote area of the Peruvian Amazon. This mission was an incomparable opportunity to photograph an unexplored region of the jungle. Accompanied by six scientists and a number of *macheteros*, the team traveled throughout the brush, many times creating new trails in untouched rain forest.

Soon the duplicitous nature of the expedition surfaced. The Smithsonian was in place to document the pristine conditions of the forest during the early stages of an extensive oil exploration project initiated by the Spanish energy giant Repsol. Leasing an immense 800 sq mile tract from the Peruvian government, Repsol created over 20 helicopter landing fields by clear cutting immense swaths of forest. Explosive charges were set off to measure the oil reserves under the jungle floor. Eventually, pumping rigs were flown in and a 50-mile pipeline was constructed to bring the oil to market.

Mr. Garn's experience in the Amazon reveals a place of majestic beauty as well as one of overwhelming chaos, confusion and terror. His photographs and 8 minute video, Lost Amazon, depict a setting of obfuscation, where the boundaries of heavenly reprieve frequently dissolved into torment and wretchedness.

Two series of photographs detail the jungle inhabitants in their grace and inevitable demise. The Shadow Series illustrates a troubling world where lies an artificial sense of safety. The main body of work, set in a darkened gallery, conveys both the seduction and fear that make up the Amazon.

This is Mr. Garn's third exhibition at A.M. Richard Fine Art. Mr. Garn is the recipient of numerous grants. His works are in several private and public collections. Most recently, Mr. Garn was invited by the U.S. Consulate General in Russia to participate in the First Biennale of Contemporary Art in the Urals (September 2010).

In the project room, Toxic Molecules, welded steel and paper wall sculptures by artist Christy Rupp. Ms. Rupp has long been pre-occupied with global environmental issues. Her work, deceptively whimsical, is charged with dangerously lucid social concerns.