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March/April at Traver Gallery – Tacoma

***Yours, Ours, Mine:* Jeffry Mitchell, Cappy Thompson and Dick Weiss
(painting on clay)**

March 3 – April 15, 2012

Opening Reception: Saturday, March 3, 5 – 7 pm

Traver Gallery in Tacoma is pleased to present *Yours, Ours, Mine*, a three-person show featuring a selection of paintings on clay by Jeffry Mitchell, Cappy Thompson and Dick Weiss. Whether executed on the subtle contours of simple, wall-mounted ceramic platters or on the varied surfaces of freestanding sculptural forms, the collaborative paintings featured in *Yours, Ours, Mine* tell fascinating stories and offer a rare glimpse into the creative process of three internationally renowned artists.

Beginning with a set of ceramic “blanks,” each of the three artists adds, in their own unique voice, to a conversation in the language of paint. The weighty lines of Thompson’s archetypal characters and dense patterning of Weiss’ autobiographical musings provide a solid foundation for the compositions, with Mitchell’s ghostly animals either mischievously floating to the foreground or quietly receding into the distance behind the action.

Yours, Ours, Mine builds on a long-standing friendship and working partnership between Dick Weiss and Cappy Thompson, both of whom are best known for their work in glass but have been becoming increasingly involved with clay in recent years. The exhibition is timed to coincide with the upcoming National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) conference, which is being held in Seattle from March 28 – 31. In addition to the collaborative platters, the show will include a selection of individual works by each of the three artists, including a set of sculptural forms completed during a residency at Pottery Northwest this past December.



About the artists:

Jeffry Mitchell's exhibitions have drawn critical praise and include the Contemporary NW Art Awards at the Portland Art Museum, Western Bridge, the World Ceramic Biennial in South Korea, the New Museum of Contemporary Art and the Seattle Art Museum. A retrospective featuring his work is scheduled to open later this year at the University of Washington’s Henry Gallery. His works are included in the collections of several prestigious museums, including the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard University, the Philadelphia Art Museum, Portland Art Museum, Seattle Art Museum and Tacoma Art Museum. A winner

of the 2009 Stranger Genius Award, Mitchell is best known for his suggestive, and wonderfully ornate ceramic sculptures.

Cappy Thompson graduated from The Evergreen State College in 1976 and has exhibited internationally for the last thirty years. Thompson has been recognized as a Fellow of the National Endowment for the Arts and, in addition to teaching extensively, her work is included in the collections of noted public and corporate institutions worldwide. Her narrative paintings on glass, for which she is best known, animate scenes both familiar and exotic in a style that is both deeply personal and rich in the influence of folk traditions the world over.

Dick Weiss was born and raised in Everett, WA. He had his first exhibition with the Traver Gallery in 1979, and he began teaching at Pilchuck Glass School in 1982. His work can be found in important collections throughout the world, including the Victoria and Albert Museum in London and the Corning Museum of Glass in New York. He is also known for his leaded glass screens, which he continues to pursue alongside his passion for painting on glass and ceramics.

Image information: Cappy Thompson, Dick Weiss and Jeffry Mitchell, *Cat People*, 2011, ceramic, enamel paint, 21” diameter. Photo: Spike Mafford.

High resolution images of this and other works from the exhibition are available upon request.

Located on the Tacoma’s Thea Foss Waterway adjacent to the Museum of Glass, the Traver Gallery is among the country’s premier exhibition spaces for contemporary studio glass, painting, sculpture, and installation art. Gallery hours are Tuesday – Saturday 10 – 6 and Sunday 12 – 5. For more information, please call (253) 383-3685 or visit our website at www.travergallery.com