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“Bear the Sway” Explores History and Imagery

*Historical inequity is placed in a contemporary visual language*

January 9 – February 14, 2012
Reception and Artist Talk January 11, 2-3:30pm

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*Bear the Sway* is the new body of work by the artist and educator Lauren Francis Adams. The piece relates to the artist’s recent investigations into the “Lost Colony” and Elizabethan colonialism. This series of paintings and drawings on paper is inspired by John White’s 1580s watercolors of native Algonquins and Secotans, and formal portraits of Queen Elizabeth I and the explorers who formed her colonial advisor ship.

The basic tenet of Adam’s project is to resolve an understanding of the historical situations at work, and to interrogate the narratives and images searching for a clearer display of the colonial power dynamic. *Bear the Sway* explores the history of imagery as a site for political displays of power and to transform given history into a new narrative.

Adams explains that her work is inspired by topical issues, especially relating to agriculture, labor and the American military, colonialism and capitalism. She does extensive research into historical decorative forms from diverse fields with a goal to disarm the viewer, revealing unexpected associations and conclusions.

The mission of the South Seattle Community College Art Gallery is to introduce students and the community at large to unique artists and their works. Receptions are given to afford the opportunity of interacting with the artists. The local and campus community is encouraged to visit the Art Gallery to enjoy the inspiring works of art.
Admission is always free and open to the public. For gallery hours and information about future exhibits, visit http://studentlife.southseattle.edu/art.html

Lauren Francis Adams

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