



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Alexandra Irvine, 409.763.2403

alex@galvestonartscenter.org

CHARLOTTE SMITH: dot, dot, dot

January 28–February 26, 2012

ArtWalk Opening, Saturday, January 28, 6 to 9 pm

Gallery Talk at 6:30 pm

GALVESTON, Texas, December 14, 2011—Galveston Arts Center is pleased to present an exhibition of recent work by Dallas-based artist Charlotte Smith titled **dot, dot, dot**. The exhibition will open during the January 28th ArtWalk and remain on view through February 26, 2012. Curator Clint Willour will lead a gallery talk with the artist beginning at 6:30 pm during ArtWalk. The event is free and open to the public.

Described as “trans-dimensional,” Charlotte Smith’s works are at once sculptural paintings and painted sculpture. Building multi-colored strata of paint, Smith variously flattens the paint blobs onto the surface of the canvas, creating colorful, confetti-like concentric circles. In other works, she attaches slender stacks of droplets to the canvas, evoking dangling stalactites or beaded strings. Finally, she abandons the substrate altogether, creating piles of paint blob ropes. While the influence of French Pointillist Georges Seurat is evident, Smith is much more interested in the manipulation of the material and repetitive mark making than creating a specific image.

In her most recent work, Smith layers glossy droplets of paint over brightly colored and textured backgrounds of polychromatic drips, puddles and pools. Again avoiding overt imagery, the canvases are reminiscent of seascapes (*Lost in You*, 2011), fields of flowers (*Coraluscious*, 2011), or even something that might be encountered under a microscope (*Gray Glow*, 2011). Smith’s fields of color swirl and melt. “This series signals a breakthrough, a point of departure,” writes art critic Catherine Ansporn. “Smith’s convincing, surely applied brushwork and new, inventive media are novel and pioneering.... It’s not necessary to know *how* these sculptural canvases were formed. It’s enough to simply savor the effects.”

—more—

Smith received an MFA from the University of North Texas at Denton in 1999. Recent solo exhibitions of her work have been hosted at Cris Worley Fine Arts, Dallas; Anya Tish Gallery, Houston; and George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles. Her work is included in the exhibition **Obsessive Worlds** currently on view at the Art Museum of Southeast Texas in Beaumont. Smith is included in the publication *Texas Artists Today*, written by Catherine Anson and published in 2010 by Marquand Books. The artist currently lives and works in Dallas.

Galveston Arts Center is operating in a temporary downtown location on the corner of Market and 25th Streets. The exhibition gallery and selections from GAC's retail gallery, ArtWorks, are open to the public Tuesday through Saturday, from 11 am to 5 pm, and Sunday from noon to 5 pm. Admission is free at all times. A flyer listing all ArtWalk participants with times and locations can be downloaded at www.contemporaryartgalveston.org.

SUPPORT AND SPONSORSHIP

Funding for the Galveston Arts Center is provided by the Houston Endowment, Inc., The Brown Foundation Inc., The City of Galveston Park Board of Trustees through the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund, The Meyer Levy Charitable Foundation of The Dallas Foundation, Texas Commission on the Arts, Harris and Eliza Kempner Fund, Levin Family Foundation, Jack and Annis Bowen Foundation, Dr. Leon Bromberg Charitable Trust Fund, and the generous support of the community, an active membership and many volunteers. GAC's *Art for All* Education Program is supported in part by the Alice Taylor Gray Foundation, Harry S. and Isabel C. Cameron Foundation, Galveston Rotary Foundation, Inc., and the Jr. League of Galveston County's Community Assistance Fund.

###