



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 2, 2009

**CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS PRESENTS  
THE HOTNESS: A SORT OF RETROSPECTIVE BY JOE PARK**

**SEATTLE, WA** – Cornish College of the Arts presents *The Hotness: A Sort of Retrospective by Joe Park* featuring artwork, memorabilia, sketches, video, and other sources of inspiration from Park’s personal archives. Selections include early work from his studies at Cornish, stills from a “failed” performance piece, functional pieces from his business in furniture design, and early sculptural work that foreshadows his eventual focus as a painter. The exhibition also features current work that ties together the pieces of this inspiring artistic journey.

Jo Park graduated from Cornish in 1988 and received an MFA from the California Institute of the Arts in 1990. His rich and imaginative paintings possess a distinct style that is able to evoke illustration, photography and painting all at once. His 2004 solo exhibition “Moon Beam Caress” at the Frye Art Museum in Seattle won him widespread acclaim, and the exhibition poster made a subsequent appearance on a memorable episode of *Grey’s Anatomy*. Park was named “Best Artist Under 41” by The Seattle Weekly in 2005, and has received the NEDDY Award from the Behnke Foundation in addition to an Artist Trust Fellowship. Park became Cornish adjunct faculty in fall of 2008; his work is represented by Rena Bransten Gallery in San Francisco.

A new exhibition program, the Alumni Retrospective Series focuses on the trajectory of one artist’s career within the context of their Cornish education. Featuring class projects and other work from their student days through their development into their current work, these exhibitions provide the public and students a different perspective on the work of an established Cornish graduate.

The exhibition features an online catalogue: [www.cornish.edu/exhibitions/joepark](http://www.cornish.edu/exhibitions/joepark)

**The Hotness: A Sort of Retrospective by Joe Park  
January 14 – February 20**

Opening Reception: Thursday, January 15, 5-7pm

Cornish Main Gallery

First Floor, Cornish College of the Arts

Main Campus Center

1000 Lenora Street

Seattle, WA 98121

Cornish Main Gallery hours are Tuesday – Friday, 12 – 5 pm.

Weekends and evenings by appointment only (206) 726-5142.

Cornish Exhibitions Curator: Jess Van Nostrand

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For additional information or to request images please contact Meike Kaan or Beth Fleenor (see information above) or visit [www.cornish.edu](http://www.cornish.edu).

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## **About Cornish College of the Arts**

Cornish College of the Arts is nationally recognized as a premier college of the visual and performing arts offering Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in dance, theater, art, design and performance production, and a Bachelor of Music degree. A pioneer in arts education, Cornish College of the Arts sprang from the remarkable vision of Nellie Cornish, a woman determined to cultivate the arts in Seattle when it was scarcely more than a frontier town. Her philosophy of educating the artist through exposure to all the arts was progressive at the time, and continues to be innovative today.

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