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Studio visit: Bruce Wilhelm tears holes and makes a mess

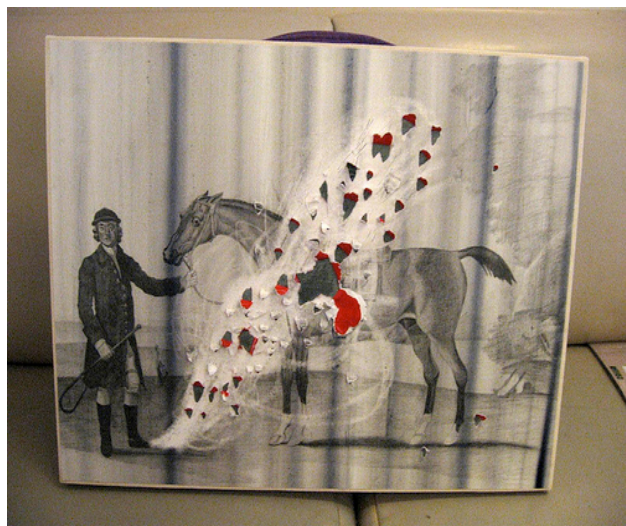
By [libby and roberta](#) | November 8, 2008



Bruce Wilhelm and his painting machine, a device he invented to simplify painting large background fields of stripy washes.

We visited **Bruce Wilhelm** at his South Philly house/studio on Halloween morning before going to the Phillies parade. Wilhelm is a recent transplant to town from Richmond, VA. The young artist, 27, a Richmond native, is unusual in that he's making more money on his art than on his day job, from which he just got furloughed due to the economic turndown. But he's represented by **ADA Gallery** (he has a show there right now, up until Nov. 30) and since they do five art fairs, he says, it's like having five solo shows a year.

Wilhelm lives here with his girlfriend **Maddy Hoch** and their three cats. The cats' shenanigans entertained us while we were chatting in his living room. We first saw Wilhelm's work at ADA's booth at one of the New York art fairs a few years back. More recently, a couple of his videos were at Vox Populi in a group video show curated by **Josh Mosley**. So we were excited to see he had come to town. Hoch's family is in the Philly region, which is how they arrived here. The couple graduated with BFAs from VCU in 2004.



Bruce Wilhelm, new painting showing the stripes made with his



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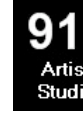
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