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## **North Carolina artist to expose “Culture of Corruption” in Chicago**

Banner Elk, NC – August 10, 2006 – Dave Alsobrooks, a North Carolina artist, will show “Culture of Corruption” at ARC Gallery in Chicago (<http://www.arcgallery.org>). The exhibition will begin August 30 and end September 30 with an opening reception Friday, September 8.

The “Culture of Corruption” encompasses a range of materials and techniques. Each piece is a different medium. “That’s the idea,” says the artist. “Each portrait in the show reflects the words or deeds of the person represented. In other words, the medium is the message about each person.” For example, George W. Bush is rendered in motor oil. Alberto Gonzalez in phone wires. Scooter Libby in white correctional fluid. Others follow the trend.

The show is best categorized as political satire. The 9 portraits to date depict government officials currently wrapped up in various scandals and questionable practices. They’re primarily members of the Bush administration. “The overwhelming majority of current cases seem to point to the GOP and a ‘Culture of Corruption,’ if you will. I’m merely acknowledging it in a public way through my painting,” says Alsobrooks.

Accompanying the paintings to Chicago will be a concept book (displayed on a gilded oil barrel) that elaborates on the political satire of the show. Alsobrooks maintains the show should be taken seriously, but not too seriously. It isn’t a condemnation of any previously cast vote or current political persuasion. In many examples, one finds the artist with tongue planted firmly in cheek. “I wanted to start a dialogue about some serious problems I see in our nation’s current policies as set forth by the Bush administration. Make no mistake about it — often I’m dealing with serious topics and bold statements. The content isn’t, however, anti-American or unpatriotic. Ultimately, I’d like to see our nation regain control of its role at home and abroad for the betterment of us all. I believe a good place to start is acknowledging the problems we have and making changes for the better.”

You can view information about the show, including images of the paintings at <http://www.culture-of-corruption.com>. The book accompanying the exhibition will be available as a downloadable pdf on the COC website or by purchase through lulu.com.

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