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For Immediate Release

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Uniforms and Uniformity

WHAT: A solo show by **Melanie Deal**

Melanie Deal is showing 17 pieces of all new work. All feature uniforms, ranging from police officers and sailors to cheerleaders and nurses. For one of her pieces, entitled "Bring 'Em On," Deal purchased Iraq Most Wanted playing cards on eBay and created a 24" X 18" collage, complete with George W. Bush in uniform and tiny skulls

Other collages include photocopies from old catalogs, Old Maid cards, milagros, and model railroad figures.



Be Prepared, collage, 24" x 24"

Artist Statement

Many of my collages are based on patchwork-quilt patterns because I'm drawn to grids, tessellations, and repeated shapes. I reinforce this repetition through colors and materials. Because patterns tend to be orderly and predictable, I like to add unexpected elements for humorous or ironic effect.

My work is influenced by a lifelong love of comic books, paper dolls, gumball-machine trinkets, board games, television, literature, and music.

I use various types of paper and "found" objects or everyday items. I often use photocopies to add to the sense of repetition. My only agenda is to express my perspective on topics that interest or amuse me. Sometimes the topic is simply color and pattern. -- Melanie Deal

Work from this exhibition can be viewed one week prior to the opening date online at <http://www.womanmade.org/soloshows.html>

WHEN: September 3 - 30, 2004
Opening reception: Friday, September 3rd, 6 - 9 p.m.
Gallery Hours: Wednesday - Friday 12 - 7 p.m., Saturday & Sunday 12 - 4 p.m.

WHERE: Woman Made Gallery, 2418 W. Bloomingdale Ave., Chicago.
(Two blocks north of North Avenue, ½ block West of Western)

HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 773-489-8900 or sonja@womanmade.org