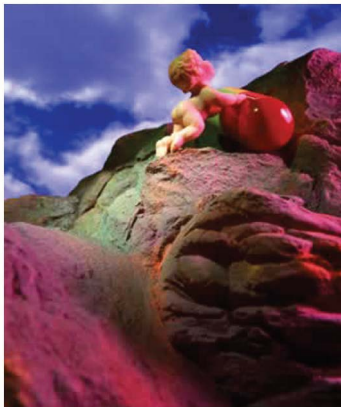


# Art for the Cash Poor: Spotlight on Charmaine Caire

Raised in mid-century Levittown suburbia, photographer Charmaine Caire has a keen eye for symbols of cultural artifice. As a longtime member of the Dumpster Divers, "a group of artists who liberate material cast-offs from landfill doom" Caire has amassed a stockpile of tiny toys, backdrops, and other prefab relics; this trove provides the raw material for her "alternative realities in miniature," vividly radioactive photographs of surreal vignettes that deliver equal doses of humor and menace. In Caire's hands, objects intended for play become a medium for sly, open-ended commentary. Her photographs offer more questions than they answer, which is her intent: "I don't want to give the ending to the story -- I want the viewer to come up with their own meaning."



To get a first-hand look at Caire's work, visit her table at InLiquid's Art for the Cash Poor on June 9 and 10 at the Crane Arts Building; her work can also be seen at the Spring Manifestations group show at Art in City Hall through June 15, and in October she will have a one-person show at 201 Gallery. For more information on Art for the Cash Poor, visit [www.inliquid.com](http://www.inliquid.com)