

Straight

(Continued from page 16)

point on the spectrum of viewpoints on a particular issue. So, they look to make the first move. Writers have no doubt. Power that they can use. Power that they may learn to use. Power that many chose to use in favor of pandering to the status quo and homage to the almighty dollar.

The power of writing and of the press became keenly known to me, when, during one of the sessions, following my remarks, the audience asked me very provocative and incisive questions. My writing was intended to invite them to inquire further and test me on my beliefs, my points of view and my value system. One gentleman, after reading the piece on terrorism, asked if America would win the war on terror.

I gasped. Stunned into silence for a few moments, a rare feat for someone like myself, I paused and tried to give a witty answer. It was a large, large question. Something I couldn't wrap my head around in the space of a few seconds. I told him that first of all, it's not really my scope as a writer to predict the outcome of wars. That would be too grand a task for me. And really, I have no real idea of the future of this first war of the millennium. But he pressed me for an answer, thirsting for my answer, and somehow I contained the secret that I else seemed to want to reveal. Perhaps he just wanted reassurance that he really believed I had some answer. It seemed that he wasn't the only one who wanted an answer to that question.

So I tried to be as honest as possible and come up with what I could in that moment. I said something to the effect that the war on terrorism was an anarchy and elusive construct at best, Pandora's Box at worst. The very idea of trying to define the terrorism seems inadequate, inarticulate. I argued that terrorism is the crux of the matter, but it hasn't been made clear that terrorism agrees upon some absolute definition. Moreover, one man's terrorism is often another man's freedom fight. The morass of delineating between terrorism is itself a Herculean task, a linguistic and rhetorical quagmire.

I also explained that I thought



California-based artist **Craig Carlisle** will be returning to the Short North for his one-man show at **Antiques and Art on Poplar**, 20 E. Lincoln Street, the night of April 5. He will be unveiling his new series of paintings entitled "Pink Monsters." Carlisle, a CCAD graduate, made Columbus his home for over 20 years and continues to make a strong presence here.

20 East Lincoln Street
In the Short North

ANTIQUES • ART • ACCESSORIES

Sharon Weiss, Owner-Consultant

Thursday and Friday Noon to 4 p.m.

Saturday: Noon to 5 pm • Sunday: 1 pm to 4 pm

(614) 291-5683 or (614) 451-8165

Antiques
And
Art
on Poplar