

Illuminated Metropolis Gallery

PRESS RELEASE



Illuminated Metropolis Gallery is pleased to present a group show "The New Banalists" curated by Rupert Goldsworthy, featuring work by Christopher Brooks, Rupert Goldsworthy, Gerald Pryor, and Mark Stewart.

The show runs from February 2nd- 25th, 2012. There will be an opening reception and performances at the gallery on Thursday, February 2nd, from 6-8pm.

BANALIST MANIFESTO :

We Are The New Banalists

Taste Is A Form of Personal Censorship

Deny The Politics of Envy

Technique Is A Refuge of The Insecure

For this show at Illuminated Metropolis, Goldsworthy and Pryor will premiere new performances at the exhibition opening, Brooks will show a painting, Stewart and Goldsworthy will show a collaborative wall-piece, and both Pryor and Goldsworthy create installations utilizing photography and sculpture.

Christopher Brooks is a British, New York-based painter who often works in enamel paint. Invoking modernist establishments such as the asylum, hospital, clinic, prison and museum, his hard-edged geometry and institutional colors simultaneously invite and reject the human content they propose.

Rupert Goldsworthy is a British, New York-based artist, known for artist-run projects in Berlin, London and New York. Goldsworthy's paintings and installations address political and emotional taboos. His concerns include the Cold War, colonial history, and the iconography of Seventies radicalism. Goldsworthy has concurrent exhibitions at Galeria Massimo Audiello, Mexico City, and Ritter/Zamet Gallery, London.

Gerald Pryor makes performative work, often using his body in relation to architecture. Body rubbings or a silhouette are made on photographs and remain. Pryor has had recent work at Red Star Gallery in Beijing and Newark Open Doors in Newark, New Jersey.

Mark Stewart: Exploding the myth of culture since scandalising Kunstforum with HITLERS SECRET DAUGHTER in Vienna, Stewart has recently worked with Kenneth Anger at the Servalles Foundation in Porto, been artist in residence at Western Front Vancouver and is preparing a Tokyo retrospective. As co-founder of the New Banalists with Rupert Goldsworthy, Stewart was the first truly viral artist with cross-platform provocations as a sound artist/montagist and general prankster. His work has been aligned to King Mob, the Dutch Provos and the Viennese Actionists.

On Christopher Brooks:

"For Brooks it is the fear of becoming bogged down in literal, metaphorical and emotional shit, that motivates the antiseptic virtues of modernist abstraction."

-Neville Wakefield, curator and writer.

On Rupert Goldsworthy:

"Sharp, dark, hard to pin down... Names of suicidal rock stars, student radicals, celebrity drugs, Black Panthers, gay clubs and aged movie queens with sad, twilight histories bounce off each other and interconnect like fragments of overheard conversations. And while the textual melange – blasts from the past plus cultural arcana –makes fun 'reading', it also has a distinctive moral texture."

-Holland Cotter chief art critic for The New York Times.

On Gerald Pryor:

"That was the best performance I have ever seen."

*-Li Liang, director of Eastlink Gallery, Shanghai,
on Pryor's Body Slam, a World Trade Center Event.*

On Mark Stewart:

"...in search of forbidden marriages between alien forms."

-The Wire

For further information, please contact the gallery by telephone at (212) 946 1685, or via email at illuminatedmetropolisgallery@gmail.com

Illuminated Metropolis Gallery

547 W. 27th St, Suite 529 New York NY 10001

GALLERY HOURS: Friday 1 - 5 pm, Saturday 12 - 6 pm

www.illuminatedmetropolis.com

