efa project space

I Like the Art World and the Art World Likes Me

January 14 – March 5, 2011
Opening reception: Friday, January 14, 6 – 8 pm

Artists: Conrad Bakker, Marc Bijl, Jennifer Dalton, Eric Doeringer, Nancy Drew, Bill Drummond, Alex Gingrow, Simon Grennan & Christopher Sperandio, Aneta Grzeszykowska, Charles Gute, Nate Harrison, Pablo Helguera, Dan Levenson/ Little Switzerland, The Matthew Higgs Society, Loren Munk, Filip Noterdaeme, Laurina Paperina, William Powhida, Ward Shelley, Jade Townsend

Curated by: Eric Doeringer

EFA Project Space
323 West 39th Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10018
between 8th and 9th Avenues

Gallery Hours: Wed through Sat, 12-6
T. 212-563-5855, F. 212-563-1875
projectspace@efanyc.org
www.efanyc.org

We welcome in a new year of art with the exhibition *I Like the Art World and the Art World Likes Me* – featuring artists whose subject matter is the art world. The title plays on Joseph Beuys's infamous performance *I Like America and America Likes Me,* in which the German artist inhabited a small gallery alongside a coyote. Organized by "bootleg" artist Eric Doeringer, *I Like the Art World and the Art World Likes Me* explores the fraught relationship between emerging artists and the established art world. The exhibition title can be read as either sincere or sarcastic, as these artists all have "love/hate" relationships with the art world. They desire to participate more fully and to be recognized but are simultaneously repulsed by some key aspects. There is a critical or iconoclastic character to much of the work, but also a great deal of reverence. Despite their criticism these artists clearly love art.

Many of the artists in the exhibition use forms of mimicry to challenge the hierarchy of art world. Some make work based on pieces by earlier artists, others emulate institutions such as museums, galleries, and art magazines. A few choose to comment more directly, addressing their criticism of artists, critics, and galleries by name. Others take a more documentary approach, charting the history of their forebears and/or contemporaries. However, these works are not impartial accounts – they are personal and critical responses to the art (and the art world) of the 20th and 21st centuries. Like Beuys and his coyote, the relationship between these artists and the art world is constantly shifting – sometimes friendly, other times adversarial, with the constant threat that someone might get bitten.

I Like the Art World and the Art World Likes Me will open on January 14th. Drawing inspiration from EFA Project Space's location on the fringes of New York City's former adult entertainment zone and current Chelsea gallery district, **Wayne Coe** will create a temporary sand painting integrating art stars into vintage porn theater advertising on the opening night.

In observance of the Art World, the exhibition will close on March 5th during the weekend of the Armory Show in New York.

I Like the Art World and the Art World Likes Me
Events and Performances

Saturdays January 15-March 5, 1-6 pm
(No performance February 26.)
Filip Noterdaeme, Director of the Homeless Museum of Art (HOMU) will greet visitors at his HOMU Booth, a portable kiosk that has been installed at EFA Project Space for this exhibition.

Thursday, February 3, 6:30 pm
Panel discussion featuring curator **Eric Doeringer** in conversation with exhibiting artists **Jennifer Dalton**, **Loren Munk**, and **William Powhida**. The panelists will discuss their reasons for making art about the art world and the ways that their subject matter and art careers have influenced one other.

Thursday, February 17, 6:30 pm
An evening of performance and advice for artists that promises to be informative and entertaining. The **How's My Dealing?** blog gives the inside scoop on New York City art dealers, **Man Bartlett** demonstrates the power of positive thinking, **Dr. Lisa Levy** evaluates the egos of audience members, and **Pablo Helguera**'s Estheticist counsels artists on professional and personal dilemmas.

Dates and more details on these events will be published shortly. For more information, or for press inquiries, please contact michelle@efanyc.org.

Curator's Bio: Eric Doeringer is a Brooklyn-based conceptual artist. Much of his artwork deals with the practice of copying. Doeringer has exhibited at institutions including the Whitney Museum, MoMA PS1, MUSAC, the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Prague Biennale 2, the Bruce Museum, and the Currier Museum of Art. He previously curated "The Matthew Barney Show", an exhibition of fan art and memorabilia held at Jack the Pelican (New York) and boca (San Francisco). Doeringer recently completed the VLA Art & Law Residency.

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A Program of the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts

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