The Drawing Center

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Fritz Welch with Elena Beelaerts and Jovi Schnell to Create
Drawing Installation as Platform for Performances by Six Artists

THE DRAWING CENTER ANNOUNCES

Acute Zonal Occult Outer
Selections Winter 2006
January 7 – February 11, 2006
Drawing Room, 40 Wooster Street

Opening Reception: Friday, January 6, 6 – 8 pm

New York, November 2005—Opening January 7 is the dynamic exhibition Acute Zonal Occult Outer: Selections Winter 2006, which will bring together drawing, sculpture, action, endurance, and sound art through an amalgamation of installation and performance works by nine artists from around the world. As part of a multi-year collaboration, Fritz Welch (New York) with Elena Beelaerts (The Netherlands) and Jovi Schnell (San Francisco) will take over the Drawing Room with a large-scale installation and wall drawing that will grow and creep throughout the space. The three artists will then cede control of the exhibition to six action artists who will adopt the installation as a platform for their individual performances and interventions.

Acute Zonal Occult Outer was organized by Fritz Welch, through the Viewing Program, and is presented as part of the Selections series of new work by emerging artists. This is the third in a trilogy of collaborative exhibitions by Welch, Beelaerts, and Schnell. Beelaerts hosted the first exhibition at the Stedelijk Museum Bureau Amsterdam in Summer 2004, and the second exhibition was hosted by Schnell at the Luggage Store Gallery in San Francisco in Fall 2004.

Acute Zonal Occult Outer will make visible the often unseen threads that connect installation art and live art. The installation by Welch, Beelaerts, and Schnell will be a starting point and a stage set for performances by six local and international artists: Rudolf Eb.Er (Switzerland/Japan), Kim Jones (New York), Ryoga Katsuma (Japan/New York), Alastair MacLennan (Northern Ireland), Andre Stitt (Wales) and Crank Sturgeon, a.k.a. Matt Anderson, (Portland, Maine). Working separately and sequentially, the artists will be given free rein to modify the space and the evolving installation through their on-site works in the fields of Endurance, Noise, and Neo-Actionism.
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Each of the six invited artists approaches performance as a gesture of drawing, and their contributions will add to the dialogue between action and drawing in the installation. During the exhibition, Welch, Beelaerts, and Schnell will yield their individual and collective authorship of the installation to a series of unpredictable encounters by the action artists. In turn, Eb.Er, Jones, Katsuma, MacLennan, Stitt, and Sturgeon will question the limits of the context and throw the setting into a state of flux, making manifest the principle of the exhibition that action is drawing.

**PERFORMANCES**

Crank Sturgeon: Friday, January 6, 6–8 pm
Alastair MacLennan: Tuesday, January 10 and Wednesday, January 11, throughout the day
Ryoga Katsuma: Saturday, January 21, throughout the day
Andre Stitt: Saturday, January 28, throughout the day
Kim Jones & Derek Bernel: Tuesday, January 31, 6–8 pm
Rudolf Eb.Er: to be announced

Performance dates are subject to change. Please check www.drawingcenter.org for updated program information.

**PUBLICATION**

In conjunction with the exhibition, The Drawing Center will publish an 8-page issue of its Drawing Papers publication series. Drawing Papers 58: Acute Zonal Occult Outer will feature an essay by Robert Thill, seven illustrations, and a collaborative drawing by Welch, Beelaerts, and Schnell.

**CREDITS**

Acute Zonal Occult Outer has been made possible, in part, with the support of The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and The Greenwall Foundation. Individual artist support has been provided by Arts Council of Northern Ireland, British Council Northern Ireland, and Cardiff School of Art & Design.

**MAIN GALLERY EXHIBITION & PUBLIC PROGRAM**

Persistent Vestiges: Drawing from the American-Vietnam War, featuring works by Nancy Spero, Martha Rosler, Dinh Q. Lê, and Binh Danh, will continue in the main gallery through February 11. In conjunction with Persistent Vestiges, The Drawing Center will present a literary program, organized by the Asian American Writers’ Workshop, on January 24 at 6:30 pm, featuring readings by Barbara Tran, Monique Truong, and Aimee Phan. Admission is $5 (members free).

**HOURS & HOLIDAY CLOSINGS**

Gallery Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 am to 6 pm and Saturday, 11 am to 6 pm. The Drawing Center will be closed December 24, 2005 – January 1, 2006.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Drawing Center is the only not-for-profit U.S. museum to focus solely on the exhibition of drawings, both historical and contemporary. It was established in 1977 to provide opportunities for emerging and under-recognized artists; to demonstrate the significance and diversity of drawings throughout history; and to stimulate public dialogue on issues of art and culture.