

CATHARINE CLARK GALLERY



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Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, CA
February 3, 2011

What.....Solo Exhibition: leonardogillesfleur: *SNOWBALL*

When.....February 26 – April 2, 2011

ReceptionSaturday, February 26, 4–7 pm

Where Catharine Clark Gallery

150 Minna Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

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leonardogillesfleur, *Irreconcilable Differences 3, FITO*, 2006-10
Transformed 1976 FIAT 600 R (metal, leather, electronics, plastic, rubber, automotive paint, glass), also includes blueprint with photo
59.05 x 145.66 x 49.02 inches

Catharine Clark Gallery is pleased to present the solo exhibition *SNOWBALL*: new works in sculpture, photography, and video by the collaborative entity leonardogillesfleur. The exhibition opens Saturday, February 26, from 4 to 7pm, and continues through April 2, 2011.

leonardogillesfleur is an alliance of two artists, Leonardo Giacomuzzo (b. Argentina) and Gilles-fleur Boutry (b. France). The two artists were collectively awarded one masters of fine arts degree from the San Francisco Art Institute in 2004. Straddling the genres of performance, sculpture, and video, leonardogillesfleur's conceptually driven work uses a wide range of approaches to explore how the loss of individuality that can occur through collaboration and relationship can result in a third identity. For their forthcoming exhibit at Catharine Clark Gallery the artists have created three separate, but related, bodies of work—a group of installative sculptures, a series of photographs, and recent additions to the on-going series, *Irreconcilable Differences*, originally introduced in a solo exhibition in 2006 with a double, front-ended tandem bicycle.

As husband and wife, partners in artistic practices, and most recently parents to two children, the artists' boundaries between individual and collective identities have become increasingly blurred. The collapse of individual identities is ever building—a snowball effect in terms of the loss of individuality. The growing loss of self that began at first as artistic collaboration has expanded into every aspect of the artists' lives. It is at this intersection of building toward something more significant and the potential for loss, that the work in the exhibit exists. For example the installation *Self-Reflection* is a mixed media work composed of two independent pieces: *Self* is a life-size Puma that stalks its own reflection; *Reflection* is a convex mirror encircled by a reflexive rhetoric rendered in neon: *I refuse to be what you want me to be; You refuse to be what I want you to be*. Another work is a proposal for an action sculpture, titled *In to You*. In this project, the idea of two becoming one is presented theatrically in a video installation where one car is being inserted into another through the use of unorthodox sculpting tools. The most recent series of work in the exhibition is titled *Villains and Heroes*. The photographs are snapshot taken from real life in which a villain or hero is portrayed.

One of the more monumental works in the exhibit is the sculptural realization of a signature photographic work from the *Irreconcilable Differences* series. The work is titled *FITO* and takes the form of a double front-ended, 1976, Fiat 600 (the Argentine version of the highly recognized Italian Fiat 500). This work humorously examines collaboration, relationship, and futility as a kind of *pushmi-pullyu* (pronounced push-me-pull-you). Similar to the characteristics of this Doctor Doolittle's "gazelle-unicorn cross"—a creature with two heads (one of each) at opposite ends of its body who, when attempting to move, is stymied by the heads trying to go in opposite directions—the car suggests a stale mate—action that can never be realized. Because *FITO* is fabricated from two cars, there is an expectation of functionality. This expectation is thwarted by the realization that like much of art, the car has no literal, only artistic, function.

leonardogillesfleur's work has been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in Mexico City, Miami, Buenos Aires, Paris, Prague, New York, and San Francisco. Their work is in the collections of di Rosa and ArtNow International. The artists live and work in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and New York, NY. They have exhibited with Catharine Clark Gallery since 2003.

About Catharine Clark Gallery

Established in 1991, Catharine Clark Gallery presents the work of contemporary artists. A wide range of media is represented in the gallery's program with an emphasis on content-driven work that challenges both the traditional use of materials and formal aesthetics. Catharine Clark Gallery was the first San Francisco gallery to create a dedicated media room, presenting new genres and experimental video art with each changing exhibition. Exhibitions are hosted on a six-week schedule and generally feature one or two solo artist exhibitions in addition to media room installations. The gallery regularly participates in national and international art fairs.

Housed in a former 1920s farming equipment warehouse, redesigned by Los Angeles-based architectural designer Tim Campbell, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, is situated among numerous arts-related landmark buildings in San Francisco's Yerba Buena Neighborhood; it is adjacent to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), the Museum of the African Diaspora (MOAD), and near the Contemporary Jewish Museum, and the Museum of Craft and Folk Art, and is housed on the ground floor of the same historical building as SF Camerawork. The gallery is open Tuesday-Saturday, 11am-6pm. For more information, please visit www.cclarkgallery.com or email info@cclarkgallery.com.

In March of 2010, the gallery opened Catharine Clark Gallery, New York, a project space in a residential apartment in New York's Chelsea neighborhood. Installations of gallery artists' work are presented as "pop-up" exhibits at the New York location several times a year (313 West 14th Street, Apt. 2F, between 8th and 9th Avenues). To date, the New York gallery has presented a group show about contemporary drawings, and solo exhibitions of Anthony Discenza and Adam Chapman's work. The next "pop-up" exhibit will feature the work of Scott Greene and will coincide with The Armory Show, NY (March).

2011 Advanced Exhibition Listings

San Francisco	February 26 – April 2 leonardogillesfleur	New York	March Scott Greene
	April 9 – May 21 Sandow Birk, Al Farrow		May New media exhibition
	May 19 – 22 artMRKT Art Fair Concourse Exhibition Center, San Francisco		
	May 28 – July 9 Stephanie Syjuco		

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