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AKTUELLER STAND

Künstler: 39783
Veranstalter: 7073

YOSHUA OKON, BARRY JOHNSTON

Künstler: Yoshua Okon, Barry Johnston

Ausstellung: 16.11.2010 - 19.12.2010

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Stadt: Los Angeles
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The show is curated by Shamim M. Momin and features commissioned, site-specific work by Los Angeles-based artists Yoshua Okon and Barry Johnston . The artists were selected specifically for the dialogue between their work, and the way it relates to the location and NTBR mission of bringing museum-quality contemporary art and cultural events to an environment that feels spontaneous, immediate, and non-institutional.

Yoshua Okon considers himself a performance artist, though most of his work takes the form of videos documenting invented scenarios with invited participants. For his project Canned Laughter at NTBR, Okon enlisted factory workers in a desolate, industrial city in Mexico, where he conducted a □laugh orchestra□ based on standard TV laugh-tracks from sit-coms and talk-shows. He created an assembly-line installation for a fictional corporation whose product is □canned laughter,□ along with producing corporate training videos, uniforms, etc. As is characteristic of his work, a deliberate artificiality (i.e. the staged setting) mixes with a strict adherence to reality (i.e. hiring a corporate branding agency to produce the videos for the fake company) to humorously investigate the politics of power, labor, and entertainment.

Similarly, Barry Johnston creates both mixed-media sculptural installations and interactive performances that pull from pop-culture and the systems of artificiality, as well as the potential for bacchanalian transcendence. His show Upside Down Libation references hip-hop, basketball, commercialized romance, and after-hours party culture while mixing in literary appropriations, the mythology of the bacchanal, and his own forms of poetry, to comment on the fragile quest for fame, and the very human desire to transcend the ordinary. His performances - witty, sensitive, brilliantly acted, self-mocking, and slightly uncomfortable in their vulnerable humor - are discrete but related occurances to his sculptural installation. He will debut this performance at the April 16th opening of the exhibition, which will be filmed and posted on the NTBR website.

Shamim M. Momin is adjunct curator at the Whitney Museum of American Art , New York. Her most recent projects include a commissioned solo exhibition of video artist Alex Bag (2009) at the Whitney, and an independent group exhibition, The Station (2008), which took place in 14,000 square feet of unoccupied raw space in a mid-town Miami development during ArtBasel 2008. As Associate Curator at the Whitney Museum, she co-curated both the 2008 and 2004 Whitney Bienniel exhibitions.

Pressetext

KünstlerInnen: Yoshua Okon , Barry Johnston