

Press release

9.2. – 25.3.2006

RYAN GANDER

Your Clumsiness is the Next Man's Stealth

Annet Gelink Gallery is proud to present the second solo show of Ryan Gander (*1976). Gander won the prestigious Baloise Prize for his installation at Annet Gelink Gallery's Statement booth at Art Basel 2005. His work will be part of this year's Tate Britain Triennial, New British Art, opening March 1.

The installation is composed of an accumulation of seemingly disparate components. One wall of the exhibition space has been clad in what appears to be a patterned concrete relief, akin to what one would usually expect to find on the walls beneath a motorway underpass or on the exterior side of a civic building that may have been designed and built in the 70's. It is in fact made from fibreglass and is coloured and textured to look like a concrete cast. The wall exists not only as a backdrop for a sound piece that encompasses the room but also as a stage or a set onto which a narrative can unfold. As a reconstruction of a facade, this fortification could not be more artificial.

On the floor of a moderately bare gallery sits a cardboard box, placed without any particular purpose. The box contains double-sided tourist maps of the City of Amsterdam. At first glance these maps seem to be the type on sale at the Amsterdam tourist offices to assist tourists in navigating the city. They are indeed flawless reproductions of such maps – with the exception of a handful of newly added streets. These new streets and canals are taken from maps made between the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and although they did once actually exist, they have since been erased from the city's landscape to make way for large municipal buildings as well as metro lines and parking spaces. The maps are free to be taken, and it is also the hope that in one way or another they will find their way into the reality of everyday life, meaning the possibility will arise that the general public will discover the deviations on the map without having any prior knowledge of the intervention or its history.

Comic cosmology, presented on a monitor opposite the mural sculpture, is an animation that features stars appropriated from the graphic logo for the World's Fair of 1964 / 1965 at Flushing Meadows, New York City, with sound track by Elmer Bernstein, taken from the film 'IBM at the fair' by Charles and Ray Eames, 1964.

The Bakery: Meiro Koizumi

Meiro Koizumi (*1976) is currently following the residence programme of the Rijksakademie Amsterdam, where his video "The Art of Awakening" was first presented during the Open Ateliers 2005. Set in a dubious pseudo examination setting, the film shows the faces and shoulders of three men who are asked to bend and "poke it with the stick". Although the viewer cannot actually see what the action implies, the poking movement receives an increasingly sexual connotation as the men appear to get more and more aroused. The tension suddenly collapses when the camera moves back from the close-up and reveals the real nature of the action. The film is a tour de force, oscillating between voyeurism and repulsion, sexuality and ridicule, harmlessness and hard core, climax and anticlimax.

Meiro Koizumi attended the International Christian University in Tokyo and the Chelsea College of Art and Design in London. He was artist in residence at ARCUS in Japan in 2003 and won the first prize at Beck's Futures 2 in 2001. He has exhibited at the 2002 Liverpool Biennale - New Contemporaries – and elsewhere in Europe, Asia and South America.

FAIRS

Annet Gelink Gallery will be presenting works by Victor Man, Ryan Gander, Carlos Amorales and Yael Bartana at **Art Rotterdam** (15-19 February, booth 56). New works by Carlos Amorales, Carla Klein, Ryan Gander and Delphine Courtillot will be shown at **The Armory Show New York** (March 9-13, pier 90, booth 025).

Annet Gelink Gallery is open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more information please contact Julia Schleyerbach or Floor Wullems, +31.20.3302066, or info@annetgelink.com