

Murray Guy

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ALEJANDRO CESARCO *Two Films*

12 September – 26 October 2009
opening Saturday 24 September, 6 – 8pm



Murray Guy is very pleased to present a solo exhibition featuring two new films by Alejandro Cesarco, on view from September 12 through October 24, 2009. Please join us for an opening reception on Saturday, September 12 from 6 to 8 pm.

These works continue Cesarco's investigation of the narrative and affective possibilities of conceptual art. Both films are re-enactments or translations which push the resonant limits of narrative, enacting processes of remembering and forgetting.

Everness (2008) is a looped film installation made up of five chapters: a remake of the very last scene of James Joyce's *The Dead*, a monologue on the meaning of tragedy, a breakfast scene, and two songs: a Tropicalista melody penned by Caetano Veloso during his exile from Brazil, and a republican chant from the Spanish civil war. The work describes ideas typically associated with youth—a first love, the loss of innocence, a sense of sincerity and political commitment. But it unfolds in an uncertainly tense domestic space that seems at once both interior and exterior, between a naïve present and an evocative past.

Zeide Isaac (2009) is a work of fiction rooted in reality, produced collaboratively by Cesarco and his grandfather Isaac, who is 94 years old and a survivor of the Holocaust. Whereas standard testimonies of survival presuppose an overriding fidelity to events, here Cesarco has written a script that his grandfather performs, as both actor and witness. As one of the last of his generation, he embodies the transfer of these narratives from first to third person. His performance is a reflection on the act of memory, and the limitations and possibilities of testimony as meaningful form.

Two new publications on the film *Everness*, with essays by Julie Ault and María Gainza, have been published to coincide with this exhibition and will be available at the gallery.

Everness was produced with support from the Rolex Mentor-Protégé Arts Initiative, and *Zeide Isaac* was produced with the help of a generous grant from Art Matters.

Alejandro Cesarco was born in 1975 in Montivideo, Uruguay, and currently lives and works in New York. He will present a project this fall at the Museum of Modern Art in New York (opening December 7), and, running concurrently with this exhibition, he will have a show of new work at Tanya Leighton, Berlin. Recent solo exhibitions include *Now and Then*, Charles H. Scott Gallery, Vancouver (2009), and *Once within a room*, New Langton Arts, San Francisco (2008). In 2006,

Cesarco was the recipient of an award from the Rolex Mentor-Protégé Arts Initiative, which allowed him to work for a year with John Baldessari. Together, they produced a collaborative body of work, *Retrospective*, presented at Murray Guy in 2007.

For more information or images, please contact Murray Guy at 212.463.7372 or info@murrayguy.com

- FALL HIGHLIGHTS -

A major survey of **Matthew Buckingham**'s work, *Time Proxies*, is on view at the Reina Sofia, Madrid through September 27. An exhibition devoted to his photographic works will open in mid-October at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver.

Moyra Davey will give a talk on Louise Bourgeois on September 14 at the Dia Art Foundation, New York, as part of Dia's *Artists on Artists* Lecture Series.

Patricia Esquivias' solo project, *Everything That is Not a Portion is Speculation*, will remain on view at the Reina Sofia, Madrid through 28 September.

Kota Ezawa will be featured in the *Third ICP Triennial* at the International Center of Photography, New York, opening on September 18, 2009 and running through January 4, 2010.

Noriko Furunishi: New Pictures will open on September 17 at the Minneapolis Institute of the Arts in Minneapolis. The show is the first museum survey of Furunishi's work, and will remain on view through January 20, 2010.

An-My Lê has work on view through October 25 in *Images Recalled*, the 3rd Foto Festival Mannheim, and will be featured in the exhibition *America*, opening in mid-October at the new Beirut Art Center in Beirut, Lebanon.

Ann Lislegaard: 2062, a large survey of Lislegaard's recent sci-fi based video and sound installations, will open at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit on September 11 and remain on view through December 28.

Barbara Probst has an extensive exhibition of her photographs at the Oldenburger Kunstverein, Oldenburg, Germany, on view through October 18.

Beat Streuli will present a large window installation on the façade of Maison de la Culture Frontenac in Montreal, as part of the exhibition *The Spaces of the Image*, organized by Mois de la Photo.