

USEFUL THINGS: INVENTORY

#	ITEM			
1	Address Book			
2	Band-Aid			
3	Battery			
4	Bottle Opener			
5	Business Card			
6	Candle			
7	Candy			
8	Clothes Pin			
9	Comb			
10	Compass			
11	Condiments			
12	Condom			
13	Cotton Ball			
14	Cup			
15	Deodorant			
16	Door Stop			
17	Ear Plug			
18	Emery Board			
19	Envelope			
20	Eraser			
21	Extension Cord			
22	Film			
23	Floss			
24	Foam Brush			
25	Freezer Pack			
26	Fruit			
27	Funnel			
28	Garbage Bag			
29	Glove			
30	Glue			
31	Gum			
32	Hair Band			
33	Hanger			
34	Jar Opener			
35	Juice			
36	Key Ring			
37	Light Bulb			
38	Lip Balm			
39	Loose Change			
40	Map			
41	Matchbook			
42	Measuring Cup			
43	Mouse Trap			
44	Nail			
45	Nail Clipper			
46	Nail Polish Remover			
47	Napkin			
48	Needle			
49	Newspaper			
50	Pain Reliever			
51	Paper			
52	Paper Bag			
53	Paper Clip			
54	Pen			
55	Pencil			
56	Pencil Sharpener			
57	Pin			
58	Plastic Bag			
59	Plastic Strap			
60	Plastic Utensil			
61	Plate			
62	Post-It Note			
63	Q-Tip			
64	Recordable CD			
65	Rubber Band			
66	Ruler			
67	Safety Pin			
68	Screw			
69	Shaver			
70	Shoe Lace			
71	Soap			
72	Sock			
73	Soda			
74	Sponge			
75	Stamp			
76	Staple			
77	Straw			
78	String			
79	Sugar Packet			
80	Tampon			
81	Tape			
82	Teabag			
83	Thread			
84	Throat Lozenge			
85	Thumb Tack			
86	Tin Foil			
87	Tissue			
88	Toilet Paper			
89	Tooth Paste			
90	Tooth Pick			
91	Toy			
92	Tube			
93	Tweezers			
94	Utility Knife			
95	Velcro			
96	Water			
97	Wet Nap			
98	White Out			
99	Wire			
100	Zip-Lock Bag			



USEFUL THINGS
Please Take One

"Do You Like Stuff?"
September 13 - October 22, 2005
Swiss Institute - Contemporary Art

USEFUL THINGS

Hello,

Thank you for taking a useful thing! If you have the time would you please do me a big favor? Please write me a short e-mail about how your useful thing is being useful. Please include a picture if possible. You could also just write to me to say HI. I'll definitely write you back. Please note that anything you write to me could be published in the future in relation to this project. Thanks so much. Here's my e-mail:

alltheoldpeople@hotmail.com

I look forward to hearing from you!

Thanks again,

Frank Olive
Frank Olive



For Immediate Release
GROUP EXHIBITION: September 13 – October 22 2005
OPENING RECEPTION: Tuesday Sept 13, 6 - 8 pm

DO YOU LIKE STUFF?

**with David Adamo, Mike Bouchet, Barb Choit, Beth Howe, Daniel Lefcourt,
Frank Olive, Mark Orange and Graham Parker**
plus Frank Olive and Rudy Shepherd's Daily Facts in the Lobby Box
Curated by Gabrielle Giattino
September 13 - October 22, 2005

Do You Like Stuff? investigates the exploding mass of information that inundates our current reality. From a paranoid desire to make order out of chaos or a brave embrace of entropy, this exhibition focuses on artists with inventive practices of collecting, cataloging and presenting masses of stuff. Inspired by the work of a generation of great indexers and amassers such as Peter Fischli & David Weiss, Dieter Roth, or the Bechers – who were able to create concise archives of the visible and experiential world – the younger artists presented in *Do You Like Stuff?* deal with an ever-growing 'whole' that has reached gloriously monstrous heights with the current chaotic ordering of digital information.

Like Douglas Huebler, who set out to photographically document the existence of everyone alive with his *Variable Piece No. 70* of 1971, the artists in *Do You Like Stuff?* embrace the impossible. Acknowledging the long-standing artistic project of representing "an everything," the work in this exhibition re-thinks the impossibility of carving a concise, poetic index from today's overwhelming mass of information.

The work in *Do You Like Stuff?* speaks to a moment in our culture where information is propagating without an efficient mechanism for maintaining order. Artists face this pandemonium in different ways: some dive straight into it, like Barb Choit or Graham Parker who deal directly with the supposed waste of the internet, treating spam and ebay jpegs with the care and attention of archivists. Daniel Lefcourt tests the limits of meaning and representation through the strategy of collecting and displaying of a lexical series of images. Mark Orange contributes to and updates a musical discussion between Erik Satie and John Cage about the density of time and repetition with his *Digital Vexations*. Mike Bouchet creates a compendium of texts from hundreds of Hollywood screenplays that endlessly scroll on screen: a veritable "film festival for readers". David Adamo and Beth Howe recognize the value of delving into every nook and cranny of our too-dense reality: Adamo acts as an arcane stalker-investigator, and Howe turns the situationist model of the *dérive* inside out as she reports on her intellectual starts and stops through the library. Frank Olive, both on his own and with collaborator Rudy Shepherd, collects, catalogues and presents everyday ideas and objects, attempting to provide his viewers with an experience of order and comfort, opposing the tendency towards disorder.



Do You Like Stuff?, part of the S I's New York emerging artists projects, is made possible with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State agency.