

For Immediate Release:

Alix Lambert

Male Pattern Baldness

18 January through 02 March 1997

Team will present an exhibition of new photographic works by the artist Alix Lambert from 18 January through 02 March 1997. Entitled "Male Pattern Baldness", it is Lambert's first New York solo in four years.

Alix Lambert created something of a stir back in 1993 when she married and divorced four times during a six-month period. The photographic evidence of this extended performance, along with wedding ephemera, made up an art exhibition which constituted both a celebration and a critique of our society's pre-eminent institution of love (not to mention heteronormativity).

For her latest project, the artist shaved her head in a tonsure which mimics the standard configuration of male pattern baldness. She then donned a man's suit and moved about the world, replicating the movements of the dominant sex. For this body of work, Lambert's theatricalization of masculinity is staged with an eye towards the minimal, the setting bare: the artist, a wooden stool, an office chair. Patterned after an average college basketball coach, her gestures are appropriated from a visual compendium of the male: thinking himself masculine despite the loss of virility commonly associated with baldness itself. In turn, her avatar might appear critical, depressed, charmed, furious, victorious, or just burdened by the very size of her phantom balls.

The black and white prints are modestly scaled, but they are all presented in custom-made frames executed from orange rubber. Sometimes the images are printed as rectangles but, most often, oval frames reinforce a formal mating of the shape of the basketball to that of the head. Arranged across the walls of the gallery, these photographs form a kind of perverse heritage display. The exhibition's centerpiece replicates the structure of the sort of oval portrait one might find sitting on a family's credenza, only here standing at over six feet.

The gallery is located at 527 West 26th Street, between Tenth and Eleventh Avenues, on the ground floor.

Gallery hours are Friday through Sunday, 11am to 7pm. For further information and/or photographs please call 212 279 9219.