

Tim Youd: Overnight at LACE

Opening reception: Wednesday June 15, 2016 7-10PM

Exhibition dates: June 30-August 15, 2016



Tim Youd brings his *100 Novels Project* to LACE with the retyping of two John Rechy novels. These retyping performances mark the 47th and 48th novels Youd has retyped in his ongoing multi-year performance series.

The *100 Novels Project* is an extended and idiosyncratic literary pilgrimage. Youd journeys across the world retyping entire novels in locations germane to each story. In these charged locations, he uses the original make and model of the typewriter employed by the book's author. During his multi-week performances, Youd retypes each novel onto a single sheet of paper backed by a second sheet. He runs the doubled paper through the typewriter repeatedly, until every word of the novel has been retyped. Upon completion the two pages - a positive and a negative image - are mounted as a diptych, representing two pages of a book.

From June 15 to July 1, Youd retypes Rechy's classic *City of Night* in the overnight hours 10pm to 3am in the storefront windows at LACE.

The sound of Youd's typing will be amplified and played onto Hollywood Boulevard, a street that figures significantly into Rechy's novel about the life of a male hustler. Written over 50 years ago, *City of Night* is one of the first LGBT works to cross over into the main stream. Rechy wrote the novel on a rented Underwood Model S. He had grown so attached to the machine that instead of turning it back in, he bought it outright for \$40, and still owns it today. Accompanying the performance at LACE will be an exhibition of Youd's large scale construction of Rechy's typewriter.

A few years later - and using the same Underwood - Rechy wrote his next novel, *Numbers*. *Numbers* is the story of a man's obsessive quest for anonymous sex in and around Griffith Park. From July 6 to July 15, Youd will be retyping this novel during the daytime hours 11am through 4pm at the Fern Dell entrance to Griffith Park.