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**FREDDY'S ADDICTION**

August 8th - 31st, 2014

Opening Reception: Friday, August 8th, 7-9pm

Freddy is pleased to present a group show featuring MacGregor Harp, Becky Howland, and Robert Loughlin.

A POEM BY CHARLES BUKOWSKI:

*Bluebird*

there's a bluebird in my heart that  
wants to get out  
but I'm too tough for him,  
I say, stay in there, I'm not going  
to let anybody see  
you.  
there's a bluebird in my heart that  
wants to get out  
but I pour whiskey on him and inhale  
cigarette smoke  
and the whores and the bartenders  
and the grocery clerks  
never know that  
he's  
in there.

there's a bluebird in my heart that  
wants to get out  
but I'm too tough for him,  
I say,  
stay down, do you want to mess  
me up?  
you want to screw up the  
works?

you want to blow my book sales in  
Europe?  
there's a bluebird in my heart that  
wants to get out  
but I'm too clever, I only let him out  
at night sometimes  
when everybody's asleep.  
I say, I know that you're there,  
so don't be  
sad.  
then I put him back,  
but he's singing a little  
in there, I haven't quite let him  
die  
and we sleep together like  
that  
with our  
secret pact  
and it's nice enough to  
make a man  
weep, but I don't  
weep, do  
you?

In this exhibition, each artist contemplates one element in the practice of smoking: the smoker's profile, discarded cigarettes, and cancer.

MacGregor Harp reduces the subject to black and white, cigarettes and smoke, in scattered arrangements that blanket the canvas to a quasi-uniform motif. Each painting takes its design cue from cigarette brands such as Marlboro, Newport, and USA Gold. His most recent exhibition, *You Do the Math*, opened at Jackie Klempay in April. Harp lives and works in New York and is co-curator of 247365.

Becky Howland's Lung Cancer Ashtrays contrast healthy tissue with residual tar in ceramic form, ranging in color from the pinks of a lively organ to the deep red, green, and browns of malignant tumors. Howland was a member of Collaborative Projects (Colab) and a founding member of ABC No Rio. She was one of the principal organizers of the seminal *Real Estate Show* of 1980, and exhibited in the revisited *Real Estate Show* at James Fuentes, Cuchifritos, and ABC No Rio in April of this year.

Robert Loughlin (1949-2011) portrays the "brute," a square-jawed smoking man as his signature icon adorning chairs, doors, canvases, and any number of found objects from his searches in thrift stores, flea markets, and estate sales. The portrait emerged in Loughlin's practice during the early 80's in New York and

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continued until his death in 2011. Loughlin's work was recently featured at White Columns in New York as part of the Sverre Bjertnes solo exhibition, orchestrated by Bjarne Melgaard.