

Immediate Release

Sterling Ruby: DISINTEGRATING IDENTITIES MORPH INTO ONE SOLID RAINBOW

January 22 - February 28, 2004

Reception: Thursday 22, January 22, 6.00 - 8.00 pm

Gallery Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 11.00 am - 6.00 pm

Foxy Production presents *Disintegrating Identities Morph into One Solid Rainbow*, the first New York solo exhibition of LA-based artist, Sterling Ruby. Ruby probes the amorphous nature of marginal environments and activities. Materials and gestures mark sites of violence, sex and drug-use, fanning a charged exhibition of risk and rapture. Ruby's work is fuelled by an exciting visual fluidity and emotional intensity that slices through popular culture, art history, psychology and politics with a raw and daring vision.

Disintegrating Identities combines sculpture, video, drawing and photography to explore transient substances, spaces and psychologies. Creating an unruly visceral space, spray painted plywood walls act as a backdrop to a sculptural web of platted hair extensions, dyed latex, wool, and glazed ceramics. In the video, *Transient*, Ruby suspensefully explores corporeal dissolution and abjection: Survivalist rituals performed in LA's wastelands are inter-cut with dreamy pans of a ceramic sculpture, while a disturbing voice tells of being kidnapped as a child and how the experience has informed a surreal state of mind. In a series of drawings using found photographs, nail polish and pencil, Ruby morphs depth and surface: the geometric disintegrates into the organic and signifiers of desire leave residues of violence and deterioration. Two large photographs evoke a monstrous and beautiful fragility: in *Bed of John*, tarred sandbags form a wound-like cavity adjacent to a cindered trash bin, while in *spectrum Tree*, an isolated vandalized tree is embedded in a hallucinogenic landscape.

Sterling Ruby was born in 1972 in Bittburg, Germany and now lives in Los-Angeles. He holds a BFA from The Art Institute of Chicago and is currently an MFA candidate at the Art Center College of Design, Pasadena. He has exhibited and screened work at Tate Britain, London (2003); Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles (2003); The Bower, San Antonio (2003); Smart Project Space, Amsterdam (2003); IR Gallery, Chicago (2003); The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago (2003); With Kirsten Stoltman at LFL, New York (2003-4). Through February 2004, he will participate in a group exhibition at southfirst Art, Brooklyn.

Upcoming at FP; March 4: Ester Partegas (featured in Flash Art International's January focus on Spain) - April: Paper Rad; June: The Man and the Crowd. July: The Infinite Fill Show - a concept by Cory Arcangel/BEIGE; September: David Noonan.

Foxy Production is a contemporary art gallery that provides a focus for inter disciplinary practices, interactive situations and collaborative ventures.

For further information or high resolution images, please call: 212 239 2758 - info@foxyproduction.com