

Dear _____,

It is our pleasure to invite you to the upcoming presentation of The Bling Ring, which will be held from 6—9pm on March 30, 2013, Apt. 302 /3ème rue, Unité d'Habitation, 280 blv. Michelet, 13008 Marseille.

We look forward to welcoming you there.

Yours sincerely,

Press Release for Peter Kilchmann:

“Why work for the bling, when you can just take it?” asks journalist Tricia Romano in an article describing a group of fame-obsessed teenagers who met at Indian Hills High School in Los Angeles. In 2009, The Bling Ring (L.A. Times) used the Internet to track A-list Hollywood celebrities’ whereabouts and rob their homes while they were away. Victims included stars Paris Hilton, Orlando Bloom, Lindsay Lohan, Ashley Tisdale, Rachel Bilson, Brian Austin Green, Megan Fox, and Audrina Patridge, reality star of The Hills. Their hits were sometimes called “shopping.”

One member of The Bling Ring, Rachel Lee, harbored an obsession for Hollywood celebs and wanted to wear what they wore; the group selected targets based on their fashion choices. Nickolas Prugo, another member of the group, told Vanity Fair that Lee considered Lindsay Lohan “a fashion icon.” Perhaps the most notorious member of the group is Alexis Neiers—a.k.a. Alexis Taylor—the daughter of a former Playboy model and a Hollywood photographer. When the scandal broke, Neiers was on set filming Pretty Wild, a reality TV show pilot for E! Her arrest did not end the project, but it did ruin what she had probably hoped would be a shot at stardom. Neiers was arrested while the cameras were rolling and has been spotted parading to the courthouse with her camera crew in tow.

The accused are only a few years apart in age, frequented the same clubs and tried to blend in with Young Hollywood at chic places like Les Deux nightclub and Miyagi’s bar on Sunset Boulevard, wearing the same types of designer clothes. The resemblance of one of the burglars in the video to Lindsay Lohan was so striking that some bloggers speculated that Lohan had actually robbed her own house.

Pairing Internet savvy with celebrity obsession, they tracked TMZ and other blogs for tips on when their alleged targets would be out partying. The group compiled an extensive database of mansions found by trolling various websites including celebrityaddressaerial.com. The robberies continued until a break in the case, when security cameras at the home of reality television star Audrina Patridge caught them on tape searching the home. Patridge took action and posted the video on her blog. It seems only fitting, then, that the police also used Internet technology to turn the tables on the suspects. Investigators used Facebook and Myspace to determine that the suspects were friends.

Sofia Coppola recently adapted the story for *The Bling Ring* (2013), which will premiere at this year's film festival in Cannes. With its various layers of (non-)reality, the film will be accompanied by a book by writer Nancy Jo Sales, one of the first to pick up the story. Sales also advised to Coppola during production.

The photographs in the exhibition *The Bling Ring* were taken in Los Angeles; among them is a photograph of a café table with its usual generic devices, including a tablet computer showing photos of Emma Watson on the set of *The Bling Ring*.

Apart from the photographs a work in form of a book will be on view. The book is conceived in collaboration with Egija Inzule and designed by Wigger Bierma and Franziska Opel. It includes further material on the topic of *The Bling Ring* with contributions by Mikael D. Brkic & Mathew Sova, Alex Gartenfeld, as well as Bruce Hainley and Hannes Loichinger.

Tobias Kaspar

The Bling Ring

April 26 to May 25, 2013

Opening on April 25, 6 – 8 PM

Press Release for BAR Project:

Tobias Kaspar, current BAR's artist in residence, presents *Scène du Garage*, a one evening mise-en-scène in a local auto repair garage. Displayed in one of the garage's vitrines, "*The Bling Ring* (Making-of)" depicts photographs and printed matter documenting Kaspar's engagement with Sofia Coppola's upcoming film. The evening scenery will be accompanied by the soundtrack of Jacques

Demy's Les Parapluies de Cherbourg (1964).

We look forward to welcoming you at Opel Garage from 5—7pm on May 10, 2013.

www.barproject.net

Opel Garage

Carrer de Casanova 83

08011 Barcelona

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