

P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center

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EXHIBITION PRESS RELEASE
Lutz Bacher *MY SECRET LIFE*

February 22 through September 14, 2009.

Opening Day Celebration: February 22, 2009, 12-6 PM.

(Long Island City, NY — February 9, 2009) P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center is pleased to present *MY SECRET LIFE*, Lutz Bacher's first museum survey exhibition, which spans several decades of the artist's wide-ranging conceptual practice. Bacher's career is marked by restrained yet comprehensive interventions into exhibition frameworks, highlighting her particular pairing of work and context. For P.S.1, works from the mid 1970s to the present are organized according to the sequential layout of the Second Floor Main Gallery, with its central hall as the installation's frenetic epicenter. This exhibition is on view from February 22 through September 14, 2009.

Navigating from still to moving, spatial to flat, and silent to loud, the exhibition emphasizes Bacher's positioning of the image, which, although persistent in its mirroring and shaping of experience, is also consistently engaged in a process of imminent breakdown. A deliberate subversion of apparent signature style is also related to the unstable status of the image that Bacher insinuates through works in photography, painting, drawing, and video.

Early works in still photography and its various reproduction methods, such as *The Lee Harvey Oswald Interview* (1976) and *Jackie and Me* (1989), delineate a constellation of concerns involving gender, sexuality, violence, and power. The intersection of Bacher's two-dimensional work with time-based projects such as *Olympiad* (1997), *Closed Circuit* (1997-2000), and *Manhatta* (1999), further reveals that in Bacher's work, the processes of illumination and obliteration (of image, of subject, of author) are consistent, perhaps cumulative across mediums and timeframes.

The accompanying publication *SMOKE (Gets In Your Eyes)*, was published by Regency Arts Press and produced as a companion to both P.S.1's *MY SECRET LIFE* and *Lutz Bacher: Spill* at the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis.

Lutz Bacher has lived and worked in Berkeley, California since the 1970s. The artist thanks the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis and Participant, INC, New York.

Lutz Bacher MY SECRET LIFE is organized by P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center Curatorial Advisor Lia Gangitano

Special thanks to Taxter & Spengemann, New York.

Also on view: *Yael Bartana* through May 4, 2009 and *Leandro Erlich: Swimming Pool* through October 2009.

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Background:

P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center is one of the largest and oldest organizations in the United States solely devoted to contemporary art. Established in 1976 by Alanna Heiss, P.S.1 originated from The Institute for Art and Urban Resources, a not-for-profit organization founded five years prior with the mission of turning abandoned, underutilized buildings in New York City into artist studios and exhibition spaces. P.S.1 became an affiliate of The Museum of Modern Art in 2000.

Support:

Operations and programs of P.S.1 are supported by the P.S.1 Board of Directors; the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; Helen M. Marshall, Queens Borough President; The Council of the City of New York; and public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency. Additional funding is provided by individuals, foundations, and corporate contributions.

Exhibitions at P.S.1 are made possible by the Annual Exhibition Fund with support from Sheldrake Organization, The International Council of The Museum of Modern Art in honor of Alanna Heiss, Agnes Gund, Lawton W. Fitt and James I. McLaren Foundation, Kathy and Richard S. Fuld, Jr., Marie-Josée and Henry Kravis, Peter Norton and the Peter Norton Family Foundation, Anna Marie and Robert F. Shapiro, Michel Zaleski, Sydnie Lansing, Philip E. Aarons and Shelley Fox Aarons, Mimi and Peter Haas Fund, and David Teiger, with additional funding from Emilio Ambasz, John Comfort, Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, Lewis B. and Dorothy Cullman, Donald L. Byrant, Jr., Susan G. Jacoby, Clarissa Alcock Bronfman, Dennis W. LaBarre, Ena Swansea, E. William Judson, *Men's Vogue*, Sarah-Ann and Werner H. Kramarsky, A NY Thing, LLC, Louise Bourgeois Trust, John V. Cioffi, Enzo Viscusi, and Douglas S. Cramer.

Time Out New York is the official print partner of exhibitions and public programs at P.S.1.

Directions:

P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center is located at 22-25 Jackson Avenue at 46th Avenue in Long Island City, Queens, across the Queensboro Bridge from midtown Manhattan. It is easily accessible by bus and subway. Traveling by subway, visitors should take either the E or V to 23 Street-Ely Avenue (note that the V does not run on weekends); the 7 to 45 Road-Courthouse Square; or the G to Court Square or 21 Street-Van Alst. Visitors may also take the Q67 bus to Jackson and 46th Avenues or the B61 to Jackson Avenue.

Hours:

P.S.1 is open from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday through Monday. It is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day.

- artbook@PS1 is open from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thursday through Sunday.
- LeRosier Café is open from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday through Monday.

Admission:

Admission is a \$5.00 suggested donation; \$2.00 for students and senior citizens; free for MoMA members and MoMA admission ticket holders. The MoMA ticket must be presented at P.S.1 within thirty days of date on ticket and is not valid during Warm Up or other P.S.1 events or benefits.

Web Sites:

www.psl.org • www.moma.org

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