

Marianne Boesky Gallery to Feature Nine International Artists Working at Intersection of Art and Design in Upcoming Group Show

Cells to include Installations by Matthias Bitzer, Alex da Corte, the Haas Brothers, Jessica Jackson Hutchins, Jennie C. Jones, and Cosima von Bonin, among others

**On View June 28 – August 11, 2017
Opening Reception June 28, 6:00 – 8:00**

Marianne Boesky Gallery is pleased to announce *Cells*, a group exhibition of work by nine international artists who are actively disrupting and eroding the commonly understood boundaries between artistic, design, and craft disciplines. The exhibition will feature works by gallery artists Matthias Bitzer and Jessica Jackson Hutchins, as well as invited artists Jackie Brookner, Alex da Corte, the Haas Brothers, Jennie C. Jones, Nancy Lupo, Jorge Pardo, and Cosima von Bonin. The show will feature many site-specific installations and new objects created especially for this presentation. The works, which are in instances brightly colored, comprised of unexpected materials, and detached from their perceived uses, will activate the gallery in a vividly sensorial experience. On view from June 28 through August 11, 2017, *Cells* will be presented across the gallery's adjacent spaces at 507 and 509 W. 24th Street, making it the largest group exhibition at the gallery to date.

Loosely inspired by Louise Bourgeois' renowned *Cells* series of psychologically rich environments, all of the artists were chosen for their interrogations of traditional artistic dualities. In ways that range from the historical and political to the psychedelic and humorous, the featured artists examine the tensions between functionality and aesthetics, the latent creative potential of quotidian objects, and the politics of the domestic.

The exhibition will include a cluster of works by each artist, creating a microcosm of their individual practices and highlighting in particular their uses of unorthodox materials to engage and confound the senses. Confronted by interior spaces and pieces that seem eerily familiar but do not immediately convey their function or purpose, *Cells* will challenge and alter viewers' perceptions of day-to-day materials and objects.

Some of the works on view will be grouped into "cells," while others will actively engage the gallery's architecture, creating surprising and delightful moments. The rich diversity of included works produces dynamic aesthetic, sensorial, and physical juxtapositions and dialogues. Highlights from the exhibition include:

- Berlin-based artist **Matthias Bitzer** weaves various scientific and literary sources into his work, creating a visual language that challenges assumptions about space and time. For *Cells*, Bitzer will create a new work that transforms what appears at first to be a ping pong table into a geometric sculpture, unsettling the form and function of a familiar domestic object. Here, the idea of play is unexpectedly and pleasantly flipped, with the object itself becoming the focus of engagement.
- **Jackie Brookner** (1945-2015) was deeply interested in the intersections between art, biology, and the human body. She was particularly focused on public art projects that emphasized the human role in water and wetland remediation. The exhibition will feature a number of Brookner's signature soil chairs and tongues, which break down barriers between man- and earth-made objects and spaces and emphasize humanity's connection to a broader natural world.
- **Alex da Corte's** multidisciplinary practice positions the objects and visual language of consumer and popular culture into new, and often otherworldly, constructs, jarring our understanding and experience of them. For *Cells*,

MARIANNE BOESKY GALLERY

509 West 24th Street, New York, NY 10011

the Philadelphia-based artist will present a 7-panel, brightly-colored velvet curtain, adorned with appliques of different icons from his work, including a rose, witch, and bundle of grapes. Created especially for the exhibition, the curtain will hang from a 25-foot-long, metal S-track installed in the gallery's ceiling. In Da Corte's hands, the curtain, heavy and unmoving, is transformed from a decorative element to a discrete sculptural object, one that serves as a kind of coat of arms for the artist.

- The **Haas Brothers'** fantastical creations blur the line between art and design objects. Known for their biomorphic and often provocative forms, the LA-based duo will convert the gallery's front gallery space into a domestic space, featuring three new paintings, a table with accompanying stools, and a grouping of three lamps. A seemingly regular formal dining arrangement, the scene at once exudes a sense of something ethereal and unfamiliar.
- Portland-based artist **Jessica Jackson Hutchins** creates dynamic sculptural installations by transforming everyday household objects with ceramics, paint, and other artistic media, exploring the mutual existence of art and daily life. *Cells* will include a few recent examples of her intimate assemblages, including a sculptural couch, rendered useless by a large-scale ceramic intervention, and a group of table sculptures.
- Brooklyn-based sonic and visual artist **Jennie C. Jones** explores the relationship between visual abstraction and avant-garde African American music. The exhibition will include 4 or 5 of her "Acoustic Paintings," minimalist works inspired by jazz motifs that she composes by combining monochromatic canvases with soundproof panels. As in many of her other works, Jones plays with psychological expectations—confronted by acoustic elements, visitors expect an aural experience where only a visual one is produced.
- **Nancy Lupo's** practice challenges the idea that objects are neutral. Representative of her interventions into commercial products and industrialized food, *Cells* will feature a series of sculptures the LA-based artist made out of ice trays. These playful sculptures will be scattered throughout the gallery, punctuating the subtle architectural details of the gallery spaces and offices.
- Mexico-based Cuban-American artist and sculptor **Jorge Pardo** seamlessly blends art, design, and architecture, producing works that defy easy categorization. Demonstrating his signature use of vibrant colors, eclectic patterns, and diverse materials, *Cells* will include a series of jellyfish lamps made of paper, a wooden credenza, and a large-scale light installation.
- Blurring the boundaries between fashion, film, music, and art, the German multidisciplinary artist **Cosima von Bonin** draws inspiration from the diverse cultural production of her neighborhood in Cologne. The exhibition will feature three woven tapestries featuring cartoon-like characters in surreal narratives, disrupting traditional associations between subject matter and artistic medium.

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For more information about *Cells*, please contact Gallery Director Kristen Becker at kristen@boeskygallery.com or 212.680.9889. For press inquiries, please contact Alina Sumajin, PAVE Communications and Consulting, at alina@paveconsult.com or 646-369-2050.

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