

/// P R E S S R E L E A S E ///
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Peter Downsbrough

16 March - 14 April 2007

Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 2 -7 pm and on appointment

Opening: Thursday 15 March 6 - 9 pm

Erna Hecey Gallery is pleased to present in the project space an exhibition by Peter Downsbrough.

The work of visual artist, photographer and film artist Peter Downsbrough has had a major impact on the perception of art. In the early sixties Downsbrough interrupted his studies in architecture at the University of Cincinnati and Cooper Union in New York in order to work as a sculptor. A decade after his first exhibition in New York (1962) the artist gained international recognition, and has been exhibiting regularly in the United States and Europe since 1972.

The varied work of the artist—ranging from sculpture and books to photography, video, and film—maintains a complex relationship with architecture and typography, while also drawing on the achievements of the early avant-garde (Bauhaus, De Stijl) and Minimal Art. In terms of form, the work of Downsbrough is highly rigorous and exhibits a powerful geometric sense, restricting itself primarily to the use of line, plane, negative space (cutting away), and delimitation. In addition to his spatial manipulations, the artist also has a keen interest in place, as is evidenced in his cartographical works and city photographs.

For his first exhibition at the Erna Hecey Gallery Downsbrough will show recent *Drawings* on A4 paper, for which the artist has used inkjet prints of video stills. The prints are dated November 2006 to February 2007, and each is either with pencil and/ or a rubber stamp. He will also present *TWO POLES* piece in the project space.

Peter Downsbrough was born in 1940 in New Brunswick, New Jersey (US). The artist lives and works in Brussels.

His most recent solo exhibitions include Galerie de Multiples, Paris (FR), Synagogue de Delme, Delme (FR) 2007; SMAK, Stedelijk Museum voor actuele Kunst, Gent (BE), 871 Fine Arts, San Francisco (US), Intérieur, Lille (FR), White-Out Studio, Knokke (BE) 2006; FRAC Bourgogne, Dijon, (FR) 2005; *Films, Videos, Editions, 1980-2004*, MAMCO, Genève (CH), 2004; *POSITION*, Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels (BE), 2003.

He has created public projects situated in Parc P2, Cité Internationale, Lyon, 2006; in Braine l'Alleud, 2004; Boulevard Emile Jacqmain, Brussels, 2003.

He has also participated in numerous group shows, including *Group Show II*, Barbara Krakow Gallery, Boston, 2007; *Artists' Tower for Peace*, Whitney Biennial, New York (US), 2006; *Kontexte der Fotografie*, Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Siegen (DE), *Collection Daniel Bosser*, extraits, Musée Matisse, Palais Fénélon, Le Cateau-Cambrésis (FR), *Le tableau des éléments*, Musée d'Art Contemporain MAC's, Le Grand Hornu (BE), 2005; *Storage/ L'entrepôt du musée*, Collection de la Province de Hainaut, B.P.S.22 espace de creation contemporaine, Charleroi

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GALERIE ERNA HECEY

(BE), *Morphing Lights, Floating Shadows*, curated by Nanni Baltzer, *Metamorph*, 9th International Exhibition of Architecture, La Biennale di Venezia, Venice (IT), *Zona de mestizaje*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid (ES), *La ville qui fait signes*, Le Fresnoy, Studio national des arts contemporains, Tourcoing (FR), *A Angles vifs*, curated by Thierry Davila, capcMusée d'art contemporain, Bordeaux (FR) 2004; *Outside of a Dog*. Paperbacks and other books by artists, *BALTIC*, The Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead (UK) 2003.

Recent publication: *NOTES - Conversation avec Peter Downsbrough*, Marie-Thérèse Champesme, Editions Facteur Humain, 2007.