

NURTUREART 
NON - PROFIT INC
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NURTUREart Non-Profit presents:

At Arms Length
January 11th – February 10th, 2008

Reception: Friday, January 11th, 7-9 PM
PRESS PREVIEW 6 – 7 PM



January 11th, 2007, Williamsburg, Brooklyn, NY – *At Arms Length*, curated by Lauren Schell Dickens and Julie McKim, opens at NURTUREart Gallery at 910 Grand Street in Williamsburg on January 11th; Featured Artists in the exhibition include: Guy Ambrosino, Helen Dennis, David A. Faust, Christina Gundersen, Jessica Mein, Molly Springfield, and Cody Trepte.

Amidst recent preoccupations with new media, post-studio practice, unmonumentality, performative practice and media super-saturation, it might seem that the place of the artist's hand has been eviscerated, digitized into invisibility. With laborious and time-consuming manual processes performed over and over, the artists of *At Arms Length* obsessively attempt to bring experience back within arm's reach. These seven artists directly and indirectly address the loss precipitated by technological advancement. Through laborious and sometimes obsessive actions, they reinsert the hand into artistic production, in an attempt to combat the alienation inherent in contemporary life.

Guy Ambrosino's, watercolors, based on the snapshots by American soldiers of Abu Ghraib prisoners, omit the photographs' central figures, leaving a setting only identifiable by caption. By methodically hand-tracing and painting these pervasive images, Ambrosino's process is a personal meditation on the possibility of familiarizing a distant event.

Molly Springfield laboriously hand-copies Xeroxed pages of theoretical texts, ink smears and all. Her meticulous drawings belabor the futility of manual reproduction, addressing the relationship between text and image, while grappling with issues of reproduction and originality, technology and labor, digital and analog, pencil and print.

Cody Trepte manually executes binary code—the universal language of computers—to explore the differences between human and technological expression. His *video This is how I cope with my neuroses* is a literal translation of its title into binary code, which Trepte then communicates through blinking.

The uncanny snapshot aesthetic of **David A. Faust's** photorealistic oil paintings evoke a subtle disquiet embedded in the American psychic landscape. By alluding to photography through themes of light, reflection and transparency, Faust reveals alienation as endemic to the banal scenes of everyday.

Christina Gundersen's series *Fallen*, based on both found images and original photographs, is an investigation of control articulated in the moment a horse stumbles and falls. By obsessively painting the suspended moment of mid-fall, Gundersen re-inserts the painterly hand into an otherwise photographic moment, pushing the documentary abilities of painting.

Helen Dennis combines drawing and photographic processes to create architectural images she calls “photographic drawings”. By layering several drawings on top of photographic paper and exposing them to light, Dennis unites a variety of hand-rendered perspectives with a photographic process. The resulting hybrid medium temporally references both the instantaneity of photography and the duration of drawing.

Jessica Mein's work explores the tension between the mediated space of film, and the physicality of drawing. In a cyclical process that emphasizes the entwining of these two mediums, the expanded frame of video is both a means for “sketching” her drawings and a surface for their execution.

At Arms Length is a NURTUREart Emerging Curators' Program Collaboration. Learn more about all NURTUREart's programs and opportunities for emerging artists and curators at www.nurtureart.org.

Directions to NURTUREart: L train to the Grand Street stop. From the exit walk one block east of Bushwick Avenue (past the school) on Grand Street. Look for the NURTUREart Banner at 910

Grand Street, just after the traffic light at Waterbury Street. The gallery is open Thursday to Monday from 12-6.

NURTUREart Non-Profit is a 501(c)3 registered charitable organization. It is funded in part by the Leibovitz Foundation, the New York State Council on the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the Andy Warhol Foundation and the Milton and Sally Avery Foundation. We appreciate their support.