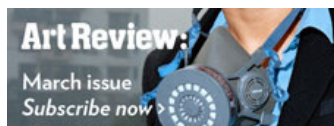


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Ron Rocco: Shake Up!

- Posted by [{CTS} creative thriftshop @ Dam Stuhltrager](#) on February 21, 2010 at 8:38pm
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{CTS} creative thriftshop in conjunction with Dam, Stuhltrager Gallery is proud to present Ron Rocco's solo exhibition Shake Up! curated by Lynn del Sol as the fourth exhibition in it's series of the gallery's sponsorship program East/West Project. (Opens Feb. 19th 6-10pm). Former expat Ron Rocco, a multi media artist that is well known for installations that border on the margins of disaster and conflict, presents a single installation that reflects the dissolving sense of social order on a global scale.

Working from Berlin and New York, artist Ron Rocco sculpts material assemblages and deeply referential interventions of signs and space. Tracing back to the scrap metal yards that colored the landscape of his Texas youth, Rocco's practice reveals a clear fascination with material structures and their mutable functions. Occupying a place between sculpture, installation, painting and performance, Rocco's raw aesthetic exposes a potential within inert materials. His objects and assemblages relate nostalgic associations and critically examine signs in and out of context. His sculptures exist as symbols, with layered references to a conflicted identity, personal pathos and a sharp political consciousness.

Shake Up! Is the moment of Shock. The rude awakening after a Turning Point. The moment when the earth moves, and we find ourselves in a hostile new environment. It is also the hope for a 'wake up call' to humanity to get with the program of saving our world.

At the center of the gallery sits a 400 pound house composed entirely of enshrined waste materials. The waste materials was collected from the streets of Brooklyn and is a material often found in bundled form awaiting recycling. The sheer mass of the object is an attempt to bring to mind the massive mountains of refuse we generate daily. Here it has been compressed and encased in a cast wax form resembling a house. As the artist has done in other artworks such as The Horizon is Nothing (1990) and More than the Limit of Our Sight (1997) the house represents the aggregate of concepts we each possess germane to home, community, and civilization.

This sentiment is intensified for the viewer with the projection and sound scape of an impending violent storm the artist recorded in Owego, New York on the banks of the Susquehanna River, where he was a resident artist for the Experimental TV Center. The image was processed with the use of a waveform which cycles through the image creating a juxtaposition of positive and negative effects in the image. One might say that this shifting between positive and negative reflects the Tipping Point at which, what under normal circumstances may be seen as a normal storm, shifts into an ecological disaster.

Encircling the entire installation is a 30 yard river of ink covered latex like fabric which falls from a 7 foot long photo etched aluminum panel in which ghost images of a caribou herd are seen stampeding towards the viewer. The fabric is printed in a wood block style that has been stained with the tire tracks of a fleet of vehicles. The fabric is meant to give the illusion of an animal hide and the tracks speaks to how ecosystems have been bisected by the construction of roadways in the more "wild" areas of our lands.

As a whole Rocco's highly charged works hint at the collapse of form and function amidst a dissolving sense of social order. His raw and refined aesthetic, expose a highly acute and critical interaction, with intersecting ideologies and histories. He is able to create a space where time is both paused and running short.

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With the support of CTS a catalogue will be produced for this exhibition. Available Feb. 26th 2010.
Please contact the gallery for purchase.

For additional information, a price list, hi-rez images, and/or an artist press kit, please contact us

Essay by Lynn del Sol

PHOTO CREDIT: Ron Rocco, Shake Up!, 2007, mix media installation with projection and sound, dimension variable Image courtesy of {CTS} creativethriftshop, New York

TAGS: "Ron Rocco", "Shake Up", "installation art", "Brooklyn Museum", "Lynn del Sol", "creative thriftshop", "CTS", "Pulse art fair" "Armory Week", "art gallery", "gallery opening", "Williamsburg art", "Brooklyn art", "New York art" "Berlin artist"

about the artist: Ron Rocco has participated in exhibitions at Amerika Haus and Kunstlerhaus Bethanien in Berlin, P.S.1, the Guggenheim Museum, and the Brooklyn Museum of Art, in New York. He has been awarded New York State Council on the Arts funding for Individual Artist Sponsored Projects as well as National Endowment for the Arts sponsorship, and awards in Sculpture and Printmaking from the New York Foundation for the Arts. His work is a part of the permanent collections of Cornell University, Ithaca, NY; and the Berlinische Galerie, Berlin, Germany; and has had an installation commissioned by the Brooklyn Museum of Art, in New York. Rocco also has public art pieces at a Bergen Light Rail Station in Jersey City, NJ, as well as in Seattle, WA through the Washington State Arts Council and Art in Public Places.

about the curator: Born and raised in New York, Lynn del Sol currently lives and works in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Actively organizing over twenty nomadic exhibitions and events a year, you can find her constantly on the go from Istanbul to Buenos Aires, Basel to Berlin, New York to Miami. She has co-curated the Lebanese's pavilion at the 51st Venice Biennale, worked as a volunteer in the education department at the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA), and held directorship at Jack the Pelican Presents in Brooklyn. She holds a board position with the Williamsburg Gallery Association (WGA) and a membership with iCI independent curators international.

about the gallery: CTS is quality art on the move. Championing provocative content driven work by local and international mid-career, underrepresented, and emerging artists in all media. Our goal is to build an infrastructure that knows no boundaries, one that carries the torch of modernism acting as a vehicle for dreamers, a cultural meeting place for great minds, an international community of interconnectivity and expandability. CTS exhibitions and artist have been touted in many local and international publications, including The New York Times, La Republica, Miami Herald, The Chicago Tribune, Art Nexus, Art Review, Art in America, Art Forum, Flash Art, NYarts Magazine, L Magazine, Flavor Pill, Miami Art Guide, Artnet, Art Info and TimeOut New York.

about the host gallery: The EAST/WEST Project is built on the concept that a program will have as much to gain as individuals from being completely immersed in different cultures. The EAST/WEST Project is a 501© international artist residency and exhibition program that travels to different communities around the world recognized for their emerging art scene. The project encourages cultural exchange by establishing short term (about six months) project spaces for international artists to build long term relationships to share, develop and progress contemporary ideas.

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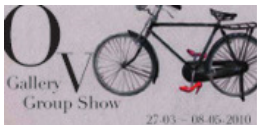
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