

>DEPART FOUNDATION
FOR THE
DISCUSSION
EXHIBITION
AND
PRODUCTION
OF ART

AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

ANAMERICANA
curated by Vincenzo de Bellis



Mike Kelley
Cowboy snowman, 2005
90.32x58.42 cm
Pencil on butcher paper mounted on rug board
Courtesy DEPART Foundation

DEPART Foundation
in collaboration with the American Academy in Rome

ANAMERICANA
curated by Vincenzo de Bellis

opening: Thursday, October 3 2013, from 6pm to 9pm

on view: until November 14 2013

open: Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 4pm to 7pm

free entrance

where: American Academy in Rome, Via Angelo Masina 5, Roma

DEPART Foundation is pleased to present the exhibition *ANAMERICANA* curated by Vincenzo de Bellis and hosted by the American Academy in Rome. The show will be on view until 14 November 2013.

The exhibition features more than forty works created by thirty-two artists who live and work in the United States and who use different media, such as painting, photography, graphics, sculpture, installation and video. The exhibition reinterprets the meaning of the word "Americana", playing with the ideas of patriotism and positivism, concepts that have always been associated with its definition, while offering a more ambiguous and complex meaning.

All of the pieces in the exhibition come from the DEPART Foundation collection and most of them are recent acquisitions. The show will bring together the work of artists from different generations who pursue various poetic and stylistic expressions: **Uri Aran, Darren Bader, Aaron Bobrow, Joe Bradley, Nick Darmstaedter, Tom Burr, Louis Eisner, Roe Ethridge, Sam Falls, Mark Flood, Elias Hansen, John Henderson, Mike Kelley, Brendan Lynch, Takeshi Murata, Carter Mull, Oscar Murillo, Mitzi Pederson, Trevor Paglen, Seth Price, Rob Pruitt, Jon Rafman, Stephen G. Rhodes, Amanda Ross-Ho, Sterling Ruby, Edward Ruscha, Lucien Smith, Valerie Snobeck, Frances Stark, Mateo Tannatt and Oscar Tuazon.**

The term "Americana" refers to manufactured objects, or a set of artifacts, that belong or relate to the cultural heritage, history, geography and folklore of the United States. Many types of materials fall under the definition of "Americana": paintings, prints and drawings, license plates or entire vehicles, household items, utensils and weapons, statues, and so on. Patriotism and nostalgia are predominant themes. Often the term is used to describe the subject of a museum or collection, or property for sale.

"The title of the exhibition itself presents a twofold interpretation; on the one hand 'An' could be read grammatically as the indefinite article that in this sense represents a non-specific typology of the noun "Americana", or, read as a privative prefix, the sense of the word would change to become a negation of itself" - Vincenzo de Bellis explains - "The works on display, reveal a tendency of contemporary artists to relate their works to history as well as to artistic and social traditions of the United States, indicating a more complex interpretation as well as a kind of distancing that underlines the critical and controversial aspects of a diverse and extraordinary country".

The exhibition is displayed throughout the American Academy in Rome and the pieces are arranged according to their formal and conceptual similarities.

A catalogue published by NERO will accompany the exhibition. The publication includes contributions by Peter Benson Miller, Vincenzo de Bellis, Fionn Meade, and Jordan Wolfson.

DEPART Foundation is an emerging arts organization dedicated to the development and support of contemporary international artists whose work and careers are departing from their previous endeavors or predecessors. DEPART Foundation's goal is to foster broad education and critical discourse in order to enhance creativity and innovation in the realms of art, design, architecture and the sciences within the contemporary scene in Italy and beyond.

The Foundation actively engages the field of art production, research, education, and acquisition, encouraging artist development through sponsorship of its artists-in-residency program, workshops, symposia, and research fellowships; urban development through planning and architectural projects; and cultural development through community-oriented programs and outreach.

The American Academy in Rome. Established in 1894 and chartered by an Act of Congress in 1905, the American Academy in Rome is a leading center for independent studies and advanced research in the arts and humanities. Situated on the Janiculum, the highest hill within the walls of Rome, the Academy today remains a private institution supported by gifts from individuals, foundations, corporations, and the memberships of colleges, universities, and arts and cultural organizations as well as by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Each year, through a national competition, the Rome Prize is awarded to approximately thirty individuals working in ancient, medieval, Renaissance and early modern, or modern Italian studies, and architecture, landscape architecture, design, historic preservation and conservation, literature, musical composition, or visual art. The application deadline is November 1st. The Academy community also includes a select group of Residents, distinguished artists and scholars invited by the Director, as well as Affiliated Fellows, and Visiting Artists and Scholars. For more information please visit www.aarome.org.

Contacts

American Academy in Rome

Lexi Eberspacher, tel. +39 06 5846470, l.eberspacher@aarome.org, www.aarome.org

DEPART Foundation

Sara De Chiara, s.dechiara@departfoundation.org

Ludovica Introini, li@departfoundation.org

www.departfoundation.org

Press office for the exhibition

Marta Colombo, mob. +39 3403442805, martacolombo@gmail.com

Ilaria Gianoli, mob. +39 3336317344, ilariagianoli@alice.it