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PRESS RELEASE

NEW YORK MINUTE: 60 ARTISTS ON THE NEW YORK SCENE

Curated by Kathy Grayson

Event promoted by the City of Rome, Council of Culture and Communication, Superintendence of Cultural Heritage.

Exhibition organized by DEPART Foundation
In collaboration with MACRO Museum of Contemporary Art of Rome

With the support and patronage of: Provincia di Roma
With the support of: American Academy in Rome, Adidas Originals, Mini Roma and Mini

MACRO FUTURE Piazza Orazio Giustiniani 4, Rome
Opening: September 19, 2009, 7 pm– with A.R.E. Weapons concert
On View: September 20 – November 1, 2009

www.nym.DEPART Foundation.org
www.macro.roma.museum

This exhibition, curated by Kathy Grayson, and the first organized by DEPART Foundation, will feature a tightly knit group of sixty New York-based artists. Many of them are downtown-Manhattan based while others live in Providence, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Virginia Beach, even in Tokyo. This enlarged community captures the drama, danger, speed and dynamism of New York's diverse creative activities. The exhibition will feature large-scale installations and collaborative activities that reflect the community spirit of the show. The aesthetics and atmosphere of exhibition will be created by the designer Rafael de Cardenas.

There will be a series of collateral events – organized in collaboration with Nero Magazine – including concerts, film screenings, performances and DJ sets that will transform the exhibition into a live happening.

Since the curatorial line of MACRO's Director Luca Massimo Barbero is devoted to the diverse and crossing forms of the contemporary, Testaccio's MACROFuture will represent the ideal location for this international event, which is dedicated to Rome's audience.

The expression “New York Minute” refers to the speed that New Yorkers react to stimuli, with a bit of impatience, a bit of ingenuity and a lot of smarts. The sixty artists in the exhibition show a rapid and resourceful response to current cultural events and issues specific to their generation. Their work explores some of the leading tendencies in new art making in New York such as: updating action painting and abstraction with the toughness of the streets, synthesizing low pop culture into handmade, heartfelt hybrids, taking conceptualism to new and absurd ends, organizing collectives and bands and taking interdisciplinary art on tour, and bringing downtown punk attitude to assemblage, collage and sculpture. These leading tendencies are basically summarized in Street Punk, Wild Figuration and New Abstraction.

The Street Punk artists in the exhibition including Dash Snow, Terence Koh, Nate Lowman, Gardar Eide Einarsson Aurel Schmidt and Ryan McGinley use the dark energy of the streets to make frank, confrontational, collage, performance, music and sculpture projects. They’re attracted to the danger and lawlessness of the city and make gritty artwork that reflects this attraction.

The artists in the Wild Figuration group including Chris Johanson, Jim Drain, AVAF, Paper Rad, Takeshi Murata and Jules de Balincourt favor prismatic pigment explosions along with handmade and found objects. They use graphic and comic references along with lowbrow pop imagery to breed new beings and radiant animals. Their communal way of working is reflected by their interest in collectives and rock bands.

A third group of artists are exploring New Abstraction. Whether updating New York School abstraction with the energy of the streets, like Dan Colen, Rosson Crow or Sterling Ruby, or revitalizing outmoded conceptual approaches to abstraction with current digital-era concerns like Tauba Auerbach, Xylor Jane or Ara Peterson, the new abstract painters are not cerebrally remote, but urgent and immediate.

Highlights of a New York Minute include “Downtown Don” Aaron Bondaroff’s pop up shop with all the fanzines, records, stickers, t-shirts and books produced by the artists in the exhibition. Tinyvices creator Tim Barber will be curating his own small section of the exhibition with contributions from his network of young photographers from all over the world. There will be a free performance by New York punk band A.R.E. Weapons at the opening (September 19).

Featured Artists

Aaron Bondaroff / Agathe Snow / Alan Vega / Ara Peterson / Aurel Schmidt / Avaf / Banks Violette / Barry Mcgee / Ben Cho / Ben Jones / Brian Belott / Brian Chippendale / Brian Degraw / Chris Johanson / Cory Arcangel / Dan Colen / Dash Snow / Derraindrop / Eddie Martinez / Ester Partegàs / Evan Gruzis / Francine Spiegel / Gang Gang Dance / Gardar Eide Einarsson / Hanna Liden / Jd Samson / Jim Drain / Joe Bradley / Jules De Balincourt / Katherine Bernhardt / Keegan Mchargue / Kon Trubkovich / Lizzi Bougatsos / Mat Brinkman / Martha Friedman / Matt Leines / Michael Bell-Smith / Michael Cline / Mitzi Pederson / Nate Lowman / Paper Rad / Patrick Griffin / Peter Coffin / Rosson Crow / Ry Fyan / Ryan McGinley / Scott Campbell / Spencer Sweeney / Sterling Ruby / Steve Powers / Takeshi Murata / Tauba Auerbach / Taylor Mckimens / Terence Koh / Threearfour / Tim Barber / Tomoo Gokita / Valerie Hegarty / Xylor Jane / Yuichi Yokoyama

Further infos and material are available at: www.DEPART Foundation.org

ABOUT DEPART FOUNDATION

DEPART Foundation is a new art organization headquartered in Grottaferrata, just outside of Rome. The Foundation's mission is to support contemporary art through exhibitions, educational and public programs including workshops and symposia, and through artist-in-residence programs, and by making its collection of contemporary art accessible to the public in a new exhibition space. Information about the exhibition space will be made available in October 2009. The Foundation's Advisory Board includes Russell Ferguson, Professor and Chair at UCLA Department of Art, Adjunct Curator at the Hammer Museum and Andrea Bellini, Art Historian, Curator, Director of Artissima, Turin. For more information, visit the Foundation's web site – www.departfoundation.org.

Artist –In–Residence Program

Starting in October 2009, two visual artists will be invited annually to participate in the program. The Foundation will provide the artists with studios, meals, travel expenses and a monthly stipend. Artists will be able to exhibit their work throughout their stay and there will be a public exhibition at the end of each year.

Symposia

The participants in the artist-in-residency program will collaborate with the Foundation to organize annual series of symposia that will feature an array of international intellectuals.

Public Programs

The Foundation will sponsor educational and community-oriented programs.

ABOUT MACRO FUTURE

MACRO FUTURE is the seat of MACRO Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Roma in the neighborhood of Testaccio which occupies two pavilions of the former slaughterhouse of Rome. In this area of particular fascination, restoration and minimum architectural and plant refurbishments have made possible the realization of a dynamic and flexible space, away from the traditional museological standards. The result is a aerospace, marked by the quality of existing structures as well as empty, flexible and available with different traditions and artistic expressions. Here the works are ideally located, giving the space the identity of a center of research and promotion of contemporary visual culture.

Launched in February 2003 with the exhibition *Chinart*, MACRO FUTURE proposes itself as an open space for experimentation and contamination among different artistic languages. This peculiarity makes it unique in its function of observatory and promoter of the most significant Italian and international trends and innovative contemporary art. Here have been organized over the years solo and group exhibitions. Among the most recent: *Into Me / Out of Me* (2007), in collaboration with the PS1 New York and the KW Institute for Contemporary Art in Berlin; *"The green paradise ..."* (2008), the first solo

exhibition in Italy of the Russian artists AES + F; *Futurist Manifesto 100x100* (2009), the great celebration of the centenary of Futurism.

The international and performative attitude of MACRO Future continues with *New York Minute*; in this ideal and pulsing container Rome's audience will meet the synchrony of Foundations', Private Collections' and Museum's own rhythms of work.

For more information, visit the website - www.macro.roma.museum

AMERICAN ACADEMY
IN ROME



MINI ROMA



Zetema
progetto cultura

Contacts:

MACRO FUTURE

MACRO FUTURE

Piazza Orazio Giustiniani, 4
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From Tuesday to Sunday – 4.00pm / 12.00pm.

MCROTICKET: MACRO + MACROFuture, admission € 4.50, € 3.00 discounted

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