ART

Process 01: Joy in NY

An exhibition of photography, art and graphic design opens on 16th September in PI, a brand new exhibition space in Chinatown.

posted by abitare

A new space of display, called PI, opens in New York, proposing a multi-disciplinary programme of venues which starts on 16th of September with Process 01: Joy, an exhibition that shows the interaction work of a former photographer and now occupational therapist, Chauncey Hare, an artist, Christine Hill and a graphic designer, Kari Martens.
PI has been created by Prem Krishnamurthy, designer, curator, and founding principal of Project Projects, a New York-based studio focusing on print, identity, exhibition, and interactive work with clients in art and architecture. As an experimental space of display—which hosts an accumulation and multiplication of many activities and explorations—the gallery actually extends the curatorial, editorial, and publishing work of Project Projects, showing the radical possibilities of disparate disciplines, historical periods, and modes of production.

The space, architectural concept, designed by Leong Leong Architecture, will premiere in the first show and evolve with each successive installation at PI.

Prem Krishnamurthy explains the project: “The architecture takes as key themes never-ending construction and the production of architecture itself. Rather than eliminating the quirks of this former exhaust-system contracting office—which included interior office windows, room divisions, window shades, and, unsurprisingly, an overly-robust exhaust system—we’ve chosen to leave them, while also highlighting their unusual character. We ripped out the drop ceiling and sheetrock walls to reveal the water-stained ceiling and wallpapered exterior walls, then floated exhibition walls on top to emphasise the contrast between original condition and new design. A massive movable partition serves as both room-divider and flexible exhibition wall. Variability is the most significant element—with each show, we will change an architectural feature of the space, whether ripping out a wall, covering over the ceiling, or something else we can’t even yet imagine—in order to reflect upon and interact with the work in that particular exhibition. From one show to another, the space is remade anew.”

The materials on view span a range of documentary, anthropological, and performative approaches to questions of labor and, at the same time, enact self-reflexive, parallel spaces of production and “off-time.” Chauncey Hare will present copies of his published works and reproduced materials and photographs. Every day at 6pm the pages of the books on view will be turned to reveal new configurations of images and texts that reflect on the shifting pressures of life and work.
Christine Hill has been studying diverse professional models since the early 1990s; she will transform the gallery into a "remote office": a hub from which to collect research on local small businesses. Eclectic programming, including lectures by business owners, urban researchers, gentrification experts, and a closing event on 3 November 2012 with Hill in attendance, will initiate an ongoing dialogue between Pi and its immediate local context.


Karel Martens, who has also created the gallery’s logo, is widely recognized as one of the most important practitioners of graphic design, with an esteemed client list that includes major publishers, architects, and institutions. He will bring a large selection of monotypes, including rare works from the 1950s and 60s, presented in an associative manner that mirrors the open-ended and speculative method of their production.

* Karel Martens, Untitled, about 1991. Letterpress monoprint on archival catalog card from the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (11 1/4 x 7 7/8 inches)

* Karel Martens, Logo #1 for Pi, 2012