

GERT AND UWE TOBIAS CREATE GALLERY INSTALLATION OF THEIR WORK FOR MoMA'S PROJECTS SERIES

Projects 86: Gert & Uwe Tobias

November 28, 2007–February 25, 2008

Contemporary Galleries, second floor

New York, November 27, 2007—For their first New York museum exhibition, and as part of MoMA's ongoing Projects series, Gert and Uwe Tobias (German, born Romania 1973), artistic collaborators and twin brothers, have created a single-gallery installation of over 20 works which include vivid large-scale woodcuts along with a ceramic sculpture, gouaches, collages, and playful drawings made with a typewriter. Two of the woodcuts in the installation are from the Museum's collection, and others are new works being exhibited for the first time. On view November 28, 2007, through February 25, 2008, the exhibition is organized by Sarah Suzuki, The Sue and Eugene Mercy, Jr. Assistant Curator, Department of Prints and Illustrated Books, The Museum of Modern Art.

"Gert and Uwe Tobias are adding their own distinct voice to the illustrious art historical tradition of the woodcut while drawing on a range of influences from Hollywood B-movies to Eastern European folk art," states Ms. Suzuki.

Displaying a lush color sensibility and striking graphic compositions, the Tobias brothers' woodcuts, typewriter drawings, gouaches, ceramic sculptures, and architectonic wooden constructions investigate the complexity of cultural identity through imagery inspired by the brothers' own personal history. Although they moved to Germany at age 12, the brothers were born in Brasov, Romania, a former Saxon colony located in Transylvania. Their work merges subjects and motifs including folklore; eastern European vernacular arts and crafts; the Russian avant-garde; Constructivism; and Transylvania's historical figure Vlad Tepes, and Dracula, the literary and cinematic character based on Tepes. They frequently combine these varied mediums and themes in playfully designed installations by painting the gallery walls with linear forms and vectors to create a unified space that allows the viewer to enter an artist-created environment.

The Tobias brothers live and work in Cologne, Germany. They graduated from the Hochschule für bildende Künste, Braunschweig, Germany, in 2002 and were awarded the Peter Mertes Scholarship from the Bonner Kunstverein, Bonn, in 2004. They were recently the youngest recipients ever of the Cologne Fine Art Award, 2007. Their solo shows have been exhibited at the Frieze Art Fair, London (2007); Kunstverein Heilbronn, Germany (2007); The Armand Hammer Museum of Art and Cultural Center at U.C.L.A., Los Angeles (2006); Galerie Michael Janssen, Cologne (2006); and The Breeder, Athens (2005). Recent group exhibitions include Team Gallery,

New York (2006); Galerie Rodolphe Janssen, Brussels (2005); and Völcker & Freunde, Berlin (2004).

ABOUT THE CURATOR

Sarah Suzuki, the Sue and Eugene Mercy, Jr. Assistant Curator of Prints and Illustrated Books at The Museum of Modern Art, joined the Museum in 1998. At MoMA, Ms. Suzuki has organized *Focus: Elizabeth Murray* (2005), an exhibition of Murray's editioned works in conjunction with the artist's MoMA retrospective, and has collaborated on numerous other exhibitions including *Eye on Europe: Prints, Books & Multiples/1960 to Now* (2006); *The Russian Avant-Garde Book 1910–1934* (2002); and *Collaborations with Parkett: 1984 to Now* (2001). She has contributed to several catalogues including *Eye on Europe: Prints, Books & Multiples/1960 to Now* (2006); *Greater New York 2005* (2005); and *Artists & Prints: Masterworks from The Museum of Modern Art* (2004). Prior to joining the Museum, Ms. Suzuki completed her undergraduate studies at Dartmouth College and received a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University.

PROGRAM

PopRally Presents: A Night with Gert and Uwe Tobias
Wednesday, November 28
The Museum of Modern Art
8:30–11:30 p.m.

PopRally, the ongoing event series for young New Yorkers at MoMA and P.S.1, and German artists Gert and Uwe Tobias will host a cocktail party and viewing of the new contemporary exhibitions *Projects 86: Gert & Uwe Tobias* and *Multiplex: Directions in Art, 1970 to Now*. The evening includes a live performance by post-folk band Lewis & Clarke in the Museum's Café 2. Attendees will receive a gift created specially for the event by the Tobias brothers.

Tickets: \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. Tickets are available at the Museum information and Film desks, and through Ticketweb.com.

PopRally is funded by the generous support of Katherine Farley and Jerry I. Speyer.

ABOUT THE PROJECTS SERIES

Created in 1971 as a forum for emerging artists and new art, the Projects series has played a vital part in MoMA's contemporary art programs. With exhibitions organized by curators from all of the Museum's curatorial departments, the series has presented the work of close to 200 artists to date. For further information on the series, including a listing of all Projects artists, please visit www.moma.org/projects.

SPONSORSHIP

The Projects series is made possible by the Elaine Dannheisser Projects Endowment Fund and by The Junior Associates of The Museum of Modern Art and the JA Endowment Committee.

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For downloadable high-resolution images, please register at www.moma.org/press.

Public Information:

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, NY 10019

Hours: Wednesday through Monday: 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Friday: 10:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
Closed Tuesdays, except December 19, December 26, and January 2.

Museum Admission: \$20 adults; \$16 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$12 full-time students with current I.D. Free for children 16 and under. Free for members. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs)

Target Free Friday Nights 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Film Admission: \$10 adults; \$8 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D. \$6 full-time students with current I.D. (For admittance to film programs only)

Subway: E or V train to Fifth Avenue/53rd Street

Bus: On Fifth Avenue, take the M1, M2, M3, M4, or M5 to 53rd Street. On Sixth Avenue, take the M5, M6, or M7 to 53rd Street. Or take the M57 and M50 crosstown buses on 57th and 50th Streets.

The public may call 212/708-9400 for detailed Museum information.

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