



Press Release

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ANNUAL WHITNEY ISP EXHIBITION OPENS ON MAY 18

On view through June 25, 2005

At The Art Gallery of The Graduate Center, City University of New York

NEW YORK, NY (May 4, 2005)—Opening on May 18, 2005, *At the Mercy of Others: The Politics of Care*, the annual exhibition of the Whitney ISP's curatorial fellows, chooses as its theme the many dimensions of the concept of "care" as an important social keyword. Questioning the dominant uses of the term "care," the exhibition engages a broader political context, touching on institutional care, human rights, and international aid, often revealing how power relations masquerade as care. The exhibition is on view through June 25, 2005 at The Art Gallery of The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 365 Fifth Avenue at 34th Street. The opening reception will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 6–8 pm.

The show features the work of Eleanor Antin; Robert Blanchon; AA Bronson; Sophie Calle; Teresa Dulce and Marne Lucas of Danzine; Alia Hasan-Khan; Alfredo Jaar; Mike Kelley; Mary Kelly; Elena Kovylin; Kristina Leko; Joanna Malinowska; Annette Messenger; Christian Philipp Müller and Jane Johnston; Yoko Ono; Adrian Piper; and Ernest Truely, Danielle Brans, and Sean Smith.

Each artist maps care through a continuum of psychological dynamics, from narcissism to obsession, aggression to violence, guilt to obligation. The works in *At the Mercy of Others: The Politics of Care* question the assumption that caring for another is a natural impulse. While rejecting the sentimental and sometimes disingenuous uses of the term, the exhibition argues that care must remain a crucial ethical concept. Ultimately, the exhibition foregrounds a human subject in need of care—vulnerable, dependent, and at the mercy of others.

At the Mercy of Others: The Politics of Care was organized by the 2004-05 Helena Rubinstein Curatorial Fellows of the Whitney Museum of American Art Independent Study Program: Sasha Archibald, Sarah Lookofsky, Cira Pascual Marquina, and Elena Sorokina.

A free brochure which includes essays by each of the Curatorial Fellows will accompany the exhibition.

VISITOR INFORMATION

The Art Gallery of The Graduate Center is at The City University of New York, 365 Fifth Avenue at 34th Street, New York City. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 12–6 pm, closed Sunday and Monday. For more information, please call (212) 817-7386 or visit www.whitney.org.

Admission to the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program Exhibition and events is free.

ABOUT THE ISP

The Whitney Museum Independent Study Program (ISP), the renowned architecture & urban studies, studio art, curatorial, and critical studies graduate program, was founded thirty-eight years ago as an innovative, alternative approach to the education of young artists, curators, art historians and critics. The ISP is now widely known and highly respected in art and academic communities throughout the world as an exceptional setting for the critical study of artistic and cultural production.

ABOUT THE WHITNEY

The Whitney Museum of American Art is the leading advocate of 20th and 21st-century American art. Founded in 1930, the Museum is widely regarded as the preeminent collection of 20th-century American art and includes the entire artistic estate of Edward Hopper, the largest public collection of works by Alexander Calder, Louise Nevelson, and Lucas Samaras, as well as significant works by Arshile Gorky, Jasper Johns, Donald Judd, Agnes Martin, Bruce Nauman, Georgia O'Keeffe, Claes Oldenburg, Kiki Smith, and Andy Warhol, among other artists. With its history of exhibiting the most promising and influential American artists and provoking intense critical and public debate, the Whitney's signature show, the Biennial, has become a measure of the state of contemporary art in America today.

EVENTS

All events are held at The Graduate Center at The City University of New York, 365 Fifth Avenue at 34th Street, New York City. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 12–6 pm, closed Sunday and Monday. For more information, please call (212) 817-7386 or visit www.whitney.org. Admission to the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program Exhibition and events is free.

OPENING RECEPTION

Tuesday, May 17, 6–8 pm

CURATOR'S GALLERY TALKS

Every Saturday, 2 pm

PERFORMANCES:

Circle of Life

Tuesday, May 17, 6–8 pm

The Art Gallery of the Graduate Center

A collaborative performance by Ernest Truely, Danielle Brans, and Sean Smith

Cut Piece

Friday, June 24, 7 pm

Harold M. Proshansky Auditorium

Yoko Ono's *Cut Piece* will be performed by Xaviera Simmons, followed by a discussion on Ono's practice by Chrissie Iles, film and video curator, Whitney Museum of American Art.

LECTURE:

Rebecca Gomperts, M.D.

Friday, May 27, 7 pm

Harold M. Proshansky Auditorium

A Dutch physician and prominent abortion rights activist, Dr. Rebecca Gomperts is the founder of Women on Waves, a nonprofit organization that operates a mobile abortion/women's health clinic in international waters. Dr. Gomperts will be introduced by Lucy Atkin, director, Margaret Sanger Center International at Planned Parenthood of New York City.

FILM NIGHTS:

Thursday, June 9, 7 pm

Martin E. Segal Theatre

Persona (1966), directed by Ingmar Bergman

Thursday, June 16, 7 pm

Martin E. Segal Theatre

Hospital (1970), directed by Frederick Wiseman

Nightcleaners (1975), directed by Berwick Street Film Collective