

Lisi Raskin

LEADEN HEARTS

Preview 21 September 2016, h. 6.30 pm

22 September – 12 November 2016

Riccardo Crespi gallery is pleased to present **Leaden Hearts**, a two-fold exhibition of tiny paintings by **Lisi Raskin** and a video program featuring work by **Dineo Seshee Bopape**, **Tyler Burba**, **Da Peeblz** (Joanna Bellettierre, Teresa Cervantes, Filipe de Sousa, Jorge Galvan, María Leguízamo, Lisi Raskin, Kelsey Skaroff, and Daniel Zentmeyer), **Jesse Harrod**, **Allyson Mitchell** and **Deirdre Logue**, **John Monteith**, **Tameka Norris**, and **Abbey Williams**.

When visitors enter the gallery, they are welcomed by **Raskin's small scale, love-token-like paintings**. This body of work emerges from the artist's urge to reconcile her modernist indoctrination with her desire to piece this broken world back together, carefully, lovingly, bit by bit. For the past five years, Raskin has been assembling these tiny abstractions from vestiges of her large-scale installations. Thus, fragments from the studio floor have been tenderly sutured together to form miniature paintings.

In these works, Raskin nests **diminutive scale and dedicational intention** within a framework of chance. These unrepeatably moves lead to paintings that are formed by vulnerability, intuition, and all of the possible failures that such a tactile decision-making process might yield. Edges and fragments of materials are touched and coaxed until they become transformed into metaphors running parallel to our own imperfect embodiment. These relationships, cast in miniature, may recall the way the seam of your jeans rides your crotch or the bloat of a new blister formed when your pinkie toe rubbed against your shoe, all day.

As one descends into the lounge space of the gallery, they will find a video program comprised of work by some of the most compelling and relevant contemporary artists working today. **Dineo Seshee Bopape's** video **In Relative Opacity** soundlessly displays titles of protest songs, in effect, amplifying their melodies and lyrics. **Tameka Norris' video Licker** takes the reins of persona-based celebrity culture and rides that queer pony into the ring of Dom/sub self-styling by toping viewers' expectations and projections. **Jesse Harrod's** animation entitled, **Operator**, features a hand-drawn penis singing the heartfelt narrative of Jim Croce's 1972 love song of the same name, testifying to the genital perspective on time and loss.

While varied in their approach to story telling, the videos in this program are profoundly aligned with the assertion that discrete objects such as a video or painting cannot be understood in a vacuum, divorced from the conditions that gave rise to their articulation. After all, what person, place, or thing exists separate from its context? Even the thoughts that inhabit our brains are subject to the cosmic light bleed of the culture around us. **Leaden Hearts** is a physicalized acknowledgement of the necessity of solidarity with other artists, a testament to the joy and eros associated with being inspired by other artists, and the opportunity to acknowledge the fact that profound work that dares to speak its truth can alter the course of how we think and what we make.

Lisi Raskin, born in Miami, lives and works in Brooklyn, NY and Providence, RI.

Selected exhibitions: **2016** *Tight and White*, This Friday or Next Friday, Brooklyn, NY *Life's a Beach performance with Poison*, Icebox Project Space, Philadelphia, PA; *10*, Riccardo Crespi, Milan, Italy **2015** *Vertical Blind*, Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, Louisville, KY; *Really, Socialism?!*, Momenta Art, Brooklyn, NY; *Infinite Rehearsal with POISON*, Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, Louisville, KY; *SIXTY MINUTES: Sixty Artists & Sixty Seconds of Video*, Vanity Projects, Miami, FL; *Minimal Forms Of Reality*, Galeria Bunkier Sztuki, Poland; *Food, Shelter, Clothing*, Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, Louisville, USA **2014** *Recuperative Tactics*, Art in General, New York (solo show); *LENIN: ICEBREAKER REVISITED*, Austrian Cultural Forum New York; *Monument for Cold War Victory*, Cooper Union, New York; *Subjective Views: Cauleen Smith, Emre Hüner, and Lisi Raskin*, Saat Saath Arts Foundation, Delhi, India **2013** *Momentum 7, The Nordic Biennale for Contemporary Art*, Moss, Norway **2012** *Radical Terrain*, The Rubin Museum of Art, New York; *Estate*, Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York; *(Anti)Subject*, FAB Gallery, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond **2011** *Drawn to Disaster*, ICA Maine College of Art, Portland, curated by Daniel Fuller; *CLAP*, CCS Bard Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, curated by Nova Benway, Michelle Hyun, Nathan Lee, Dylan Peet and Tom Eccles; *Time Machine in the Atomic War Command*, Konjic, Bosnia, curated by Branko Dimitrijevic; *3rd Singapore Biennial*, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore **2010** *Catch Me! Grasping Speed*, Kunsthaus Graz, Austria, curated by Katrin Bucher; *NapTime*, The Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas, Austin, curated by Risa Puleo and Anna Craycroft **2009** *Warning Warum*, Dia Art Foundation, New York (solo show); *Launch on Tactical Warning*, Galleria Riccardo Crespi, Milan (solo show); *100 Years*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, New York, curated by Klaus Biesenbach; *11th International Istanbul Biennial*, Istanbul; *2nd International Athens Biennial*, Athens **2008** *Mobile Observation Station (Receiving Station)*, Bard Center for Curatorial Studies/Hessel Museum, New York, curated by Maria Lind (solo show); *Command and Control*, ADAA Fair, New York, curated by Maria Lind; *Self-Storage*, The Hardware Store Gallery, San Francisco; *The Possibility of an Island*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami; *Katastrophenalarm*, NGBK, Berlin; *Who's Afraid of the New Now?*, Casino Luxembourg, Luxembourg **2007** *Green Dreams*, Kunstverein Wolfsburg, Germany; *Formalities*, IASPIS Project Space, Stockholm, Sweden; *What Remains*, Spazio Lambretto, Milan, Italy; *Pensée Sauvage* Frankfurter Kunstverein, Germany; *Emergency Room*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY; **2006** *High Positive Void Coefficient*, Riccardo Crespi, Milan

Artist featured in the video program:

Dineo Seshee Bopape lives and works in Johannesburg, South Africa
<http://seshee.blogspot.com/>

Tyler Burba lives and works in New York, NY
www.existentialhymns.com

Da Peeblz (Joanna Bellettierre, Teresa Cervantes, Filipe de Sousa, Jorge Galvan, María Leguízamo, Lisi Raskin, Kelsey Skaroff, e Daniel Zentmeyer) is a collective based in Philadelphia, PA
 on instagram: dapeeblz

Jesse Harrod lives and works in Philadelphia, PA
<http://jesseharrod.com/>

Allyson Mitchell lives and works in Toronto, Ontario, Canada
<http://www.allysonmitchell.com/>

Deirdre Logue lives and works in Toronto, Ontario, Canada
<http://deirdrelogue.com/>

John Monteith lives and works in New York, NY
<http://john-monteith.squarespace.com/>

Tameka Norris lives and works in Los Angeles, CA and New Orleans, LA
<http://www.mekajeane.com/>

Abbey Williams lives and works in New York, NY
<http://abbeywilliams.com/>