PISS and VINEGAR

Two Generations of Provocateurs

New York Academy of Art Presents

Piss and Vinegar: Two Generations of Provocateurs

January 19 - March 5, 2017
Opening reception: January 19, 6-8 pm
Robert Mankoff and Ken Johnson Talk on “Visual Art and Humor”: January 18, 6:30 pm
Panel Discussion with Piss and Vinegar Artists: January 25, 6:30 pm

The New York Academy of Art is pleased to announce the major exhibition Piss and Vinegar, which unites two generations of provocateurs. Piss and Vinegar presents ten artists whose work is marked by dark, maniacal humor, from R. Crumb, Peter Saul and Robert Arneson to Nicole Eisenman and Natalie Frank.

Curated by Peter Drake, Dean of the Academy, and gallerist George Adams, Piss and Vinegar consists of five men who came of age in the 1960s and five contemporary female artists. Robert Arneson, Robert Colescott, R. Crumb, Peter Saul, and Robert Williams, whose satirical, sarcastic prints and paintings demonstrate influences from psychedelia to MAD Magazine, will be shown with Nina Chanel Abney, Sue Coe, Nicole Eisenman, Natalie Frank, and Hilary Harkness, whose work demonstrates the same subversive wit and “fuck-off” spirit. No one subject or affiliation unites the two groups, but the exhibition particularly highlights the choice these artists made to pursue uncomfortable and ostensibly unpopular themes, and to risk having their work called vulgar or grotesque. Each artist moreover brings to the table serious technical skill, sense of purpose and art historical fluency, in the service of pushing the boundaries of “good taste.”

Generously sponsored by XL Catlin and with support from Cadogan Tate, the exhibition runs January 19 – March 5, with an opening reception on Thursday, January 19, from 6 pm to 8 pm, at the Academy in Tribeca. Several events are included in the exhibition programming, including a panel discussion with Piss and Vinegar artists on January 25. On January 18, art critic Ken Johnson and Robert Mankoff, cartoons editor of The New Yorker, will discuss “Visual Art and Humor” at the Academy, touching themes explored in Piss and Vinegar.

About New York Academy of Art

Founded in 1982 by artists, scholars and patrons of the arts, including Andy Warhol, the New York Academy of Art is a graduate school and cultural institution that combines intensive technical training in the fine arts with active critical discourse. The Academy believes that rigorously trained artists are best able to realize their artistic vision and thus Academy students are taught traditional methods and techniques and encouraged to use these skills to make vital contemporary art. Through major exhibitions, a lively speaker series, and an ambitious educational program, the Academy serves as a creative and intellectual center for all artists dedicated to highly skilled, conceptually aware figurative and representational art.