



JOHN JACOBSMEYER



JULIE HEFFERNAN



KURT KAUPER



BO BARTLETT

“private (dis)play”

an exhibition of the private sketchbooks, journals, and other related works of American contemporary figurative artists.

Curated by James Adams and Katharine Kuharic

January 27 – February 28, 2010

On view daily 2 – 8 pm or by appointment. The exhibition will be closed Wednesdays and holidays.

NEW YORK, NY- December 19, 2009 - New York Academy of Art is pleased to present an expanded version of "private(dis)play", a gathering of artists' secret drawings, sketchbooks and studio paraphernalia. First shown in the St. Louis Center of Creative Art and the Emerson Gallery at Hamilton College, this larger selection of intimate works will be on view from January 27 – February 28, 2010.

"private(dis)play" is an exhibition of private works from American contemporary figurative artists serving as a portal into the artists' practices and ideas. These works displayed, whether intended as preparatory to other work or simple musing, represent innumerable schemes in drawing such as concept sketches or croquis, preliminary and comprehensive studies, academic and life-drawings, tracings and cartoons, and renderings. They further serve to eliminate the creative process in both its diversity and simplicity.

It is widely acknowledged that drawing, because of its primitive nature, is the most direct and immediate form of visual communication and expression, the most essential, universal form—the lingua franca. While drawing's sheer directness and immediacy can be said to offer the first thoughts of the artist or the initial spark of inspiration, it also has the potential to reveal secrets, private fantasies, or self-revelation.

A number of the works in the show are in the form of books, multiples, or collections. For display many works have been encased, where they are capable of being seen but not touched. As if in reliquaries, the physical distancing adds both prestige and mystery.

Among the artists included in the exhibition are Bo Bartlett, Will Cotton, Vincent Desiderio, Julie Heffernan and Kurt Kauper.

Hi-resolution jpegs of the selected works are available upon request

Academy will also be hosting *Drawing Conclusions*, a series of lectures and presentations inspired by the exhibition. These meetings will take place each Thursday in February at 1 pm. On February 25, the Academy will host a "white glove party," allowing guests to experience the exhibition intimately.

The Academy is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit educational and cultural institution. For further information on the Academy, its graduate school, continuing education courses and public programs, please visit www.nyaa.edu.