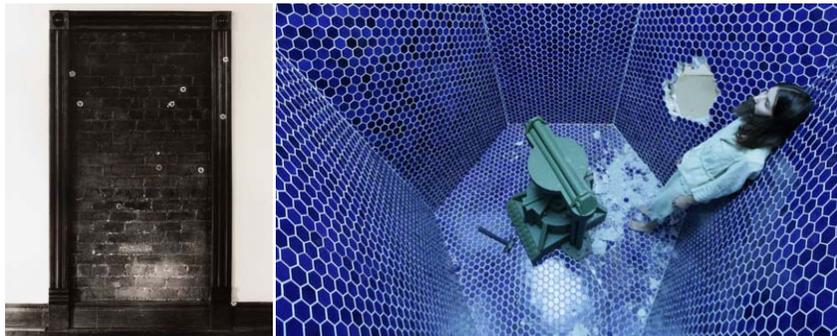


LAMONTAGNE GALLERY

555 East Second St. | South Boston, MA 02127

December 6, 2010

PRESS RELEASE



In the main space:

BORU O'BRIEN O'CONNELL: *More Information Has Been Transmitted via the Telegraph*

December 11, 2010 – January 20, 2011

Opening Reception: Saturday, December 11 from 6 – 8 pm

LaMontagne gallery is pleased to present *More Information Has Been Transmitted via the Telegraph*, an exhibition of new photography and video by Boru O'Brien O'Connell. The title alludes to a line from the Scopes Trial, which occurred in the small town of Dayton, Tennessee in 1925, and prosecuted public school teacher John T. Scopes for teaching Darwin's theory of evolution.

For this exhibition, O'Connell mixes a selection of subjects and surroundings from the original trial with those from a dramatic re-enactment of it held annually in Dayton. In groupings of black and white photographs, these fragments are seen from various angles. In a three channel video installation, the plays amateur actors each cull a line from memory, while the artist attempts to follow along on a split-screen. Here, the exhibitions title is revealed as a reflexive misquote in a deconstruction game of articulation and understanding. Along the way, the artist has imposed himself through these various interruptions. They are obstacles on a path to avoid the generational loss that occurs through repetition, raising the complicated notion of preserving a truth. While the trial's debate can serve as an open arena full of static archetypes and ideals, ready to be re-purposed, there can also exist the unexpectedly violent evacuation of perspective and medium by way of a gunshot into an otherwise finished work. Or perhaps the gunshot is a bonding agent?

As much as it could be said that the history of the United States is one of great political debate, there exists an equally rich tradition towards the simulation of that debate. Much of the interest in this subject results from the fact that the trial was itself a contrivance. After the event's adoption

into popular culture through stage and film, it continues here in an endless loop, perhaps with the intention of preserving a cultural legacy, but one wanting for any true legal precedent.

While the case proposed to bear out the arguments of fundamentalism and modernism on the right to teach evolutionary theory, these pieces point to the varying implementations of theatre, and its relationship and meaning to those utilizing it.

Boru O'Brien O'Connell (b. 1979) lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. He is an MFA candidate at Bard College ('11) and is a graduate of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts. He has exhibited his work internationally, and is a regular contributor to Bidoun Magazine. He is currently working on a collaboration with Justin Lieberman for the online magazine Triple Canopy. This is O'Connell's second solo exhibition with LaMontagne Gallery.

In the project space:

MEREDITH JAMES: *The Invention of Morel Pages 81-86*

The Invention of Morel Pages 81-86. 2010. Double projection video. 6 minutes 20 seconds.

Meredith James (b. 1982) lives and works in New York. She received her MFA from Yale University, and her BA from Harvard University. Recent exhibitions include: *Espalier* at Marc Jancou Contemporary, New York, and *Experiment* at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston.

For the occasion of the exhibition there will be a collaborative poster between Boru O'Brien O'Connell and Meredith James, featuring a text by conservative political commentator Reihan Salam.

For further information, please contact the gallery.

Gallery Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 11 - 6 PM | (617) 482 - 8400
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