

RYAN LEE

RYAN LEE GALLERY LLC
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Joan Logue: Video Portraits
October 16 – November 15, 2014
Opening: Thursday, October 16, 6-8PM

RYAN LEE is pleased to announce *Joan Logue: Video Portraits*, an installation of work that includes video portraits of Jasper Johns from 1979 and Noam Chomsky from 2011. Described as real-time portraiture paintings, the videos are intimate portrayals of the renowned American artist and distinguished American linguist that contemplate the present and future. Logue is interested in redefining portraiture by replacing the still-framed surface with a visual image that changes over time, allowing the sitter to contemplate and the viewer to experience a portrait that has a life of its own. This is the artist's first show with the gallery.

Logue is a pioneering figure of video portraiture, having defined a specific and deeply personal vocabulary for the medium that incorporates personal ambient sound. Trained in painting and photography, she approaches video as an expansion of these two disciplines, injecting an element of real-time to render the sitter's presence. Her work in video portraiture began in 1970 and by 1975, she was recording her contemporaries in this ongoing series, the crux of which would span four decades. Her subjects have included John Baldessari, Vija Celmins, Judy Chicago, John Cage, Willem de Kooning, Richard Diebenkorn, Ellsworth Kelly, Roy Lichtenstein, Joan Mitchell, Nam June Paik, and Ed Ruscha, among others. She has also made video portraits of important activists and political figures, including Rosa Parks and Cesar Chavez, as well as international figures that have shaped thought and the arts in their respective countries.

Jasper Johns is a 20-minute video portrait that was originally commissioned by the Corcoran Gallery of Art for the 36th Biannual Exhibition of Contemporary Painting in 1979. Logue asked Johns to sit for the video portrait in silence at his home in Stony Point. The video portrait captures Jasper Johns in real-time, allowing the viewer to witness him in his own time and in contemplation. *Jasper Johns* has been installed at Cincinnati Museum of Contemporary Art, Cincinnati, US; Corcoran Gallery of Art, 36th Biennale, Washington, DC, US; Denver Art Museum, Denver, US; Ikona Venezia Gallery, Venice, IT; New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, US; Newport Harbor Museum of Art, Newport Beach, US; The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, US; and Videoformes, Clairmont Ferrand, FR.

The video portrait of Noam Chomsky was made in 2011 at his MIT office. Logue asked Chomsky to sit in silence and offered to stop the video portrait 10 minutes into filming, but Chomsky declined, stating he enjoyed the time to think. The words that appear juxtaposed to Chomsky are from his own writing. A database analyzed 198 files of text, revealing almost 34,000 unique words which move across the screen as if on a marquee. This is the first time this portrait has been installed and on view to the public.

RLWindow
Joan Logue: 30 Second Portraits: New York & Paris
October 14-November 1, 2014

On view in RLWindow is a selection of seven 30-second video portraits of Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane, Simone Forti, David Hockney, Jochen Gerz, Robert Doisneau, Ushio Amagatsu, and Tony Ramos. Intended

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to be shown on television to promote more art and less product, Logue initiated these short portraits in 1979 as an anti-commercial response to advertising. She believed television could give artists a broader audience, stating, "I wanted people to know more about John Cage and less about hamburgers!" In 1980, The Kitchen, National Endowment for the Arts, and New York Foundation for the Arts further funded the project, which ran as television spots in France, Germany, Japan, and Boston, and have also screened at Documenta 8, Kassel, DE; Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles, US; Musée National d'art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, FR; Sao Paulo Festival de Video, BR; and Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, NL.

Logue (b. 1942, McKeesport, PA) received her BFA and MFA from Mount Saint Mary's College, Los Angeles. She has exhibited her videos extensively at important museums and institutions, including the American Film Institute, Los Angeles, US; DOX Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague, CZ; Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, US; International Center of Photography, New York, US; The Kitchen, New York, US; Museum of Contemporary Art, Kawasaki, JP; Museum of Modern Art, New York, US; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, ES; San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, US; Walker Art Center, Cincinnati, US; and Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, US. Her work is in the permanent collections of Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, FR; Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, ES; Museum of Contemporary Art, Kawasaki; Museum of Modern Art, New York; National Portrait Gallery, Washington DC, US; and Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, NL, among others.

RLWindow features video, installation, and performance art for audiences to view it from the High Line at a distance through the window. Capitalizing on the gallery's position overlooking the High Line and its visibility to the 4.6 million yearly visitors, RLWindow will show innovative, experimental, and collaborative projects by international, contemporary artists, both represented by the gallery and invited. By launching active programming in this site-specific space, the gallery will expand its mission to work with leading artists and curators. Programming will rotate every two to four weeks.

Forthcoming projects include work by **Maria Antelman, Kevin Cooley, LaToya Ruby Frazier, Kakyong Lee, Shin il Kim, Gabriel Lester, Peter Sis, Sandy Skoglund, and Stephanie Syjuco.**

Concurrently on view is a solo exhibition of work by **Michael Mazur** (1935-2009), including Stoneham Zoo pastels and related works from the 1970s. Additionally, forthcoming exhibitions at the gallery include work by **Seong Chun**, which will be on view from November 20th through January 10th.

Please contact Courtney Willis Blair at 212-397-0742 or courtney@ryanleegallery.com for further press inquiries.