



ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE • 111 FRONT ST, #228, BROOKLYN, NY 11201 • 212-255-6651 • WWW.AIRGALLERY.ORG

For Immediate Release

Suzanne Broughel, *White Advent Calendar for Black History Month*

February 3 – 28, 2010

Reception: Thursday, February 4th from 6pm to 8pm

BROOKLYN, NY January 2010 – A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to announce *White Advent Calendar for Black History Month*, an exhibition of new work by 2009-2010 A.I.R. Fellowship Artist Suzanne Broughel. The Opening Reception will be held on Thursday, February 4th, from 6 to 8pm.



In her solo show, *White Advent Calendar for Black History Month*, Suzanne Broughel uses everyday household objects - bandaids, soap, bed sheets, basketballs, t-shirts, and skin bronzers - to address race and cultural identity from the perspective of a white American female raised in a racially segregated environment.

By drawing on her own experience of white skin privilege, Broughel confronts the viewer with the largely unspoken dialogue that rages beneath false reconciliation. As she delves into more personal levels of meaning, Broughel also touches on desire: sexual desire, cultural desire, desire for identity. In her ongoing Dreamcatcher Series, Broughel constructs makeshift hoops, nets and entangled traps that reference overlapping areas of appropriation, fetishization, and cross cultural influence. Broughel is deeply invested in exploring how we are defined by cultural constructs, and how we, as a society and as individuals, may move beyond them.

Broughel's choice of materials also speaks to her interest in the personal as the political: bandaids become a wall hanging, bath soaps become bricks, and skin bronzers become tie-dye. Although the artist's materials are mass produced commodities, they enter the intimate, domestic realm in our homes and on our bodies. It is from this intimate, personal perspective that Broughel believes the strongest dialogue on race can begin.

Suzanne Broughel graduated from Hunter College with an MFA in 2003. She is a 2009 Fellow in Sculpture from the New York Foundation for the Arts, and a 2009 Smack Mellon "Hot Pick." She attended the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in 2008, and has shown extensively in group exhibitions in New York, New Jersey, and France. This is her first solo exhibition.

A.I.R. Gallery is located at 111 Front Street, #228 in the DUMBO neighborhood of Brooklyn. Gallery hours: Wed. – Sun., 11am to 6pm. For directions please visit www.airgallery.org. For more information please contact Gallery Director, Kat Griefen at 212-255-6651 or kgriefen@airgallery.org.

The A.I.R. Fellowship Program is made possible by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, a state agency, the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) through a re-grant from Brooklyn Arts Council, as well as generous support from Louise McCagg, The Bernheim Foundation, The Gifford Foundation, The Timken Foundation, Elizabeth A. Sackler, and The Milton and Sally Avery Foundation.



For Immediate Release

