

JOINT CUSTODY PROJECT, TAKE 2

Curated by Jonny Coleman & Chris Cruse (Berlin) / Shana Nys Dambrot & Tad Beck (L.A.)
Opening June 27th in Berlin & July 5th in Los Angeles

Los Angeles + Berlin - This June, L.A.-based Found Gallery is teaming with the Raab Galerie in Berlin to collect some of the most gifted and adventurous artists in the international art capitols and sister cities for a collaboration that embraces limitations and confronts creative differences. Participating artists will check their egos at the door as they're forced to collaborate blindly and give up control over the art they create.

Essentially, the Joint Custody Project is a blind collaboration between pairs of artists. Each artist will work, back and forth, on a piece over the course of four weeks without verbal communication or knowledge of his/her partner's identity. Only once the piece is completed and exhibited will the artists finally have the opportunity to meet. Two curators in each city have joined forces to select the artists and oversee the process. Each opening reception will feature some surprise guest musical collaborations that mirror the visual mash-ups.

This summer, the blind collaborative mechanism that was created by Found Gallery in early 2007 has been refined and strengthened to produce some of the most unique visual art through a very specially charged process. Many different media will be represented in the collaboration: painting, sculpture, illustration, graphic design, animation, fashion design, video, photography, collage, experiential art, and more. All the while, members of the Found team will film interviews with the artists as they transport their works in progress across their sprawling cities and work in their studios. Likewise, a very limited edition book/catalogue chronicling the experience will be self-published by the project directors.

The show is being curated by two separate teams. In Berlin, Found curator Jonny Coleman teams with film producer and d.j. Chris Cruse to organize and document the Berlin artists. In Los Angeles, Shana Nys Dambrot and Tad Beck are collaborating. Shana currently serves as the L.A. managing editor of Flavorpill and has extensive experience as an art critic and author. Tad is an artist himself, specializing in photography and video, and serves as a full time professor at USC's Roski School of Fine Arts.

BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

The Joint Custody Project was first launched by Found Gallery of Silverlake in the winter of 2007. Curated by Jonny Coleman, the project gathered together 50 artists of all disciplines. He paired them off in twos, handed them a medium, and asked them to blindly collaborate on a piece of art. The only method of communication allowed was through the art itself. During the four-week timeframe of the project, the art piece exchanged hands no less than 8 times. The final joint effort was displayed with the rest of the collaborations at the gallery in a genre-bending, one-night multimedia event. The show drew much interest from the artistic community, as well as the press and public.

Stay informed and share at www.jointcustodyproject.blogspot.com

WHERE	Found Gallery 1903 Hyperion Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90027 www.foundla.com	Raab Galerie Fasanenstraße 27 D-10719 Berlin www.raab-galerie.de
OPENING:	July 5 th , 2008 (L.A.)	June 27 th , 2008 (Berlin)
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FOUND GALLERY: The brain-child of local Eastside painter Jonny Coleman and Westside film producer/investor John Schwartz, Found Gallery opened its doors in mid-August 2006 (under the name The Orphanage Gallery). The gallery serves as a dynamic venue for emerging artists to showcase their works to up-and-coming collectors.

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