

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARTIST: Sue de Beer

TITLE: The Ghosts

PRESENTED BY: Art Production Fund

IN ASSOCIATION WITH: Park Avenue Armory

CO-PRODUCERS: Art Production Fund & Marianne Boesky Gallery

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: February 3 – 6, 2011.

VENUE: Park Avenue Armory, 643 Park Avenue, New York City

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Art Production Fund, in association with Park Avenue Armory, is pleased to present *The Ghosts*, a film and installation by Sue de Beer.

The Ghosts is a two-channel video, which will be exhibited in the Park Avenue Armory's historic Veterans Room. The Veterans Room's ornate decorative motifs echo the lighting effects in the film. de Beer will create a comfortable viewing environment with soft carpet and soft seating, leaving much of the original décor of the room untouched. *The Ghosts* has been edited like a 'flicker film' using persistence of vision to create overlays between the images.

Sculptural elements of the exhibition will include a 'fountain' exhibited in the Armory's Silver Room. The form of the fountain is an altered praxinoscope. A central column in the shape of a dodecagon will reflect the panoramic landscape of a glacier in Antarctica - a landscape invoked by the hypnotist in the film, and a landscape which telescopes time and vision, moving the viewer closer and farther away as the viewer moves around the central column of the object. Across the hall from the Veterans Room, in the Field & Staff room, will be a screen installation that blocks and filters light. The screen will produce some of the lighting effects from de Beer's visually intense films, but in a sculptural form.

The Ghosts takes the form of a 'giallo', telling the story of an occult hypnotist, who can retrieve lost lengths of time from peoples memories, and return them to the patient as if they are experiencing those moments anew. The story opens in a hypnotist's office. The Hypnotist, played by noise artist and painter, Jutta Koether, has developed a kind of hypnotism that allows her to dive into the deepest parts of the human mind and find the ghosts hidden there, and has become completely irresponsible, bringing back unstable ghosts, from the minds of unstable people.

The film's main male character is a money manager on Wall Street, played by Jon Spencer of the bands the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion and Boss Hog (and previously of the band Pussy Galore). He has become addicted to this hypno-therapy and dreams of an elusive woman - she so beautiful, but somehow this fantasy is uncontrollable. He keeps going back to the hypnotist, trying to have this vision stay, and to have the fantasy simply be sublime, but often it goes wrong. Other characters in the film include a teenage girl and her sister, and a record store clerk.

The Ghosts is Sue de Beer's first major work shot in New York City, using the city both as a location and point of inspiration.

Sue de Beer has exhibited her work nationally and internationally in such venues as the New Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, PS1/MOMA, the Brooklyn Museum, and Marianne Boesky Gallery in New York, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions in Los Angeles, the Reina Sofia in Madrid, the Kunst Werke, the Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie, and the Kunsthalle Shirn in Germany, the Neue Gallerie am Landes Museum Joanneum in Austria, the MuHKA Museum in Antwerp, Belgium, and the Museum of Modern Art, Busan, in Busan, South Korea. De Beer's work is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the New Museum for Contemporary Art, the Brooklyn Museum, and the Goetz Collection. De Beer lives and works in NYC.

Art Production Fund (APF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to producing ambitious public art projects, reaching new audiences and expanding awareness through contemporary art. Recent projects include: *Prada Marfa*, Elmgreen & Dragset, Valentine, TX, 2005, permanent; *Greeting Card*, Aaron Young, Park Avenue Armory, 2007; *Electric Fountain*, Noble & Webster, Rockefeller Plaza, 2008; *The Whitney Biennial*, Park Avenue Armory, 2008. Kalup Linzy, *Member's Only*, Prospect. 1 New Orleans, 2008. Scribble, Karl Haendel, 2009; Kalup Linzy, Kembra Pfahler, Haim Steinbach, Proenza Schouler for Pitti W, Florence, Italy 2009; *ART ADDS*, Alex Katz, Shirin Neshat, Yoko Ono, New York City, 2010; *PAUSE*, Yoko Ono and T.J. Wilcox, Cosmopolitan, Las Vegas, NV, ongoing; *White Ghost*, Yoshitomo Nara, Park Avenue, NYC, 2010; *Rob Pruitt: Holy Crap*, Sotheby's, New York City, 2010. Co-Founders: Yvonne Force Villareal & Doreen Remen; Director: Casey Fremont; Project Manager: Theodora Schamber.

Park Avenue Armory fills a critical void in the cultural ecology of New York by enabling artists to create, and the public to experience, unconventional work that could not otherwise be mounted in traditional performance halls and museums. With its soaring 55,000-square-foot Wade Thompson Drill Hall—reminiscent of 19th-century European train stations—and array of exuberant period rooms, the Armory invites artists to draw upon its grand scale and distinctive character to both inspire and inform their work. The Armory's 2011 season includes Ryoji Ikeda's *the transfinite*; five plays in repertory by the Royal Shakespeare Company; site-specific performances by Streb and Shen Wei Dance Arts; and the final performances by the Merce Cunningham Dance Company.

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