

parlour

When All Through the House
December 12 - 13, 2009

Parlour is excited to present its eleventh exhibition, *When All Through the House*, which features short video works by eleven contemporary artists selected from an open call that Parlour hosted this autumn. The show's title invokes the first couple of lines from Clement Clarke Moore's *The Night Before Christmas*: "Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house/ Not a Creature was stirring, not even a mouse." In Parlour's rendition, however, everything is stirring; The moving images will be installed throughout an old, ivy-covered mansion, pervading the space and creating a dynamic experience for the viewer. Featured artists include: Colleen Asper, Orit Ben-Shitrit, Filipe Bessa, Amanda Friedman, Elizabeth Hirsch, Harold Moss, Matthew Newton, Lars Rasmussen, Adam Shecter, Mary-Ruth Walsh and Simon Woolham. Parlour No. 11 is hosted in Bushwick by Cedar House, a group of nine renaissance men and women working in various creative industries.

Colleen Asper's work explores the convergence of mass media's distance and the intimacy of an artist's practice. Her film for this show is an anecdotal account of her usage of various closings for emails, which are illustrated by plush letters created by the artist and the artist's hands themselves. **Orit Ben-Shitrit** and **Harold Moss** are responsible for *The Long from Inside*, a digital, roving composition that gives a glimpse into a psychological state reflecting both internal and external realities. At its heart is a reconstructed narrative of a quotidian cinematic world that slowly begins to rupture. In his piece *Bird/Sea*, **Filipe Bessa** physically doubles the view by projecting two films side by side. Separate yet complementary, Bessa creates a nexus of possibility, thereby making salient the complexity inherent in the seeming simplicity of his subject. **Amanda Friedman** and **Elizabeth Hirsch** have collaborated for the first time to create *Old Time Letter Rack, 2009*, a stop motion video short that takes as its departure point traditions in 19th century American still-life painting. Using assorted objects (more or less casted) as props, their composition is re-staged, resulting in gestures that play with dimensionality, perspective, and sequence. **Matthew Newton's** artistic practice is interested in the meeting of the scientific and the romantic. His piece *Heaven Fade to Black* was created through filming a YouTube video on his computer screen of a working class weekend painter, who was genuinely inspired by Bob Ross, and playing it backwards. As the protagonist is working on a painting of the heavens, the creator looks like he is in the process of erasing or absorbing the heavens into nothingness. In *1000 Drawings*, **Lars Rasmussen** uses a single sheet of paper, charcoal, and an eraser and scans each drawing to create his time-based animated video. Set amid a backdrop recording of a bustling Brooklyn day, a tapestry of fleeting images erupts before our eyes. Engaged with the impermanence of life, Rasmussen creates a transformative platform for shapes that instantly come alive and then rapidly decay. In his animated video installations **Adam Shecter** assembles fragments of dreams, memories, and myths from various cultures and time periods. By combining personal and collective mythology and memories, familiar and estranged moments emerge. In *Ghosts* the viewer witnesses the decent of a solitary figure into inexplicable darkness and in *Hydra* an unrevealed creature is represented solely by color and movement that silently flashes before our eyes. **Mary-Ruth Walsh's** *Nonuments* is about mundane spaces like shopping centers that invite you into their narrative of luxury, a supposedly exotic other that taps into a memory bank of images, yet delivers an extreme form of banality. Through questioning, appropriating and peeling

back layers, Walsh explores some of the effects of our constructed world. **Simon Woolham** brings his digitally modified landscape to life through a mixture of repetitive sounds and subtle movements. In *Scanners*, Woolham's unexpected conjunction between nature and technology emphasizes the miniscule, the minor detail that otherwise would be lost. While Woolham's tone is in part humorous, his work simultaneously provokes an emotional connection to life's kinetic force.

Colleen Asper received her MFA from Yale and BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art. In addition to exhibiting her work across the US, she is a contributing writer for *Art in America* and *Beautiful/ Decay Magazine*, and is co-founder of *Ad Hoc Vox*, an ongoing series of discussions and lectures. Orit Ben-Shitrit was born and raised in Jerusalem and now works and lives in Brooklyn. She has exhibited her work in the US and in Europe, and is presently an MFA student at Hunter College. Filipe Bessa received his BFA from Florida State University Film School and has written and directed several short films. Originally from Brazil, Filipe now works and lives in Brooklyn. Amanda Friedman and Elizabeth Hirsch have both participated in group shows at Artist's Space, Printed Matter and The Apartment Show. Elizabeth is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College and Amanda has studied at The New School and the Glasgow School of Art. Harold Moss is the founder and creative director of FLICKERLAB, a production and technology company with a focus on socially and environmentally conscious media. Notably, Moss created the three-minute cartoon, *A Brief History of the USA*, in Michael Moore's Academy Award winning, *Bowling for Columbine* and was a producer of the 2008 Sundance Grand Jury Prize winning and Oscar nominated documentary, *Trouble the Water*. Matthew Newton is currently a student in the MFA program at Hunter and has had his work exhibited throughout the United States. Lars Rasmussen received his BFA from CSU Chico and recently got his MFA from CUNY Brooklyn College. Lars lives and works in Brooklyn and has exhibited his work throughout the United States. Adam Shecter received his BA from McGill University and in 2006 graduated from the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. In addition to exhibiting his work throughout the US, he is a contributing writer for *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, just to name a few. Mary-Ruth Walsh received her MFA from Goldsmiths College in 2004. She has shown extensively in the United Kingdom and Ireland, where she lives and works. Simon Woolham received his MFA from Chelsea College of Art and his BFA from Manchester Metropolitan University. Simon has shown his work extensively throughout the United Kingdom and in 2010 he will have a solo show at Danielle Arnaud Contemporary Art in London and a residency in Chongqing, China. Simon works and resides in Cambridge.

When All Through the House opens Saturday, December 12, 2009 from 7 - 10 PM, and can be viewed on Sunday, December 13, 2009 from 12 - 6 PM by appointment only. For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Leslie or Ciara at parlourinfo@gmail.com or visit www.parlourdoor.com.

Parlour is a nomadic exhibition space started in 2008 that presents weekend-long exhibitions in different homes throughout New York City. Its impetus is to showcase the work of contemporary artists in a unique and dynamic setting. Beginning in 2010, Parlour will expand its programming to include shows in different cities around the world. Parlour was conceived by Ciara Gilmartin and Leslie Rosa-Stumpf. Both are graduates of Sarah Lawrence College. Leslie additionally received her MA in Curatorial Studies from Goldsmiths College.

directors

ciara gilmartin leslie rosa-stumpf
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