

STEPHEN WIRTZ GALLERY

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LUCY PULS

However Often

Exhibition dates: November 8- December 16, 2006

Opening reception for the artist Thursday, November 9, 2006, 5:30-7:30 PM

Stephen Wirtz Gallery presents *However Often*, an exhibition of new mixed media works on paper by Bay Area artist Lucy Puls.

In keeping with her career long practice of assigning Latin words to her works, Puls has uniformly titled each piece in the series *Sed Etiam*, which translates as “not only, but also.” Representing a departure from her signature sculptural works that incorporate scavenged articles that have been abandoned or mined from thrift stores, the *Sed Etiam* series reconsiders several stationary objects in residency around Puls’ studio space and in her daily life. These sequentially numbered works on paper of consistent size involve snapshots of re-imagined items of utility and sculptural works in progress that are highlighted and selected for solo debuts with the help of applications of lacquer and enamel.

Throughout her career Puls has historically kept meticulous recordings and thorough documentation of her individual processes in obsessively detailed sketchbooks that function as both art making reference and personal journal. These new works reveal this tradition in installation form by presenting a certain duality of background information that is sourced from recycled snapshot images. Items not discarded but instead recycled (cardboard boxes, graphing boards), supporting materials (extension cords, clamps, lamps), and tools for concealing, (various paint jars, crayons), are remolded by lacquer mark-ups taking the object from chosen utility back to form alone. It is in this sense that Puls’ original meditation “not only, but also” comes full circle, manifesting itself in a body of work sourced entirely from Puls’ collected journals, logs, and sketch books.

Lucy Puls received her B.S. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and her M.F.A. from Rhode Island School of Design. Puls’ work has been exhibited internationally and she is represented in numerous collections including San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Oakland Museum, the Kent and Vicki Logan Collection, and the Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield Village, OH. Puls is a Professor of Art at University of California, Davis.

Stephen Wirtz Gallery is located at 49 Geary St., 3rd Fl., San Francisco, CA 94108, (415) 433-6879. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 9:30-5:30, Saturday 10:30-5:30.

For additional information please contact Julie Casemore, Tel.: (415) 433-6879, julie@wirtzgallery.com