

ART IN GENERAL

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Piotr Lutyński, *Planet New York*, 2007.

For Immediate Release

Piotr Lutyński

Second Life

April 21-June 30, 2007

Opening Reception Saturday, April 21 6-8 p.m.

I think that there is no art so high that it cannot belong in a hen house. —Piotr Lutyński

New York, NY (March 28, 2007) Art in General is pleased to announce an exhibition by Piotr Lutyński.

Piotr tends to involve animals in his work, and has in the past installed living goats, birds, horses and carp in galleries. He juxtaposes these creatures with unexpected elements such as music and food as well as the more traditional gallery fare of geometric paintings. His installation at Art in General includes live fish, a video projection of the glittering New York City skyline at night and a gilt mural reminiscent of medieval or early Renaissance painting. The opening of the exhibition will also be

accompanied by a performance by Diana Dyjak Montes de Oca and a series of concerts given by the artist and other invited musicians.

Through his work—which intentionally incorporates an absurd yet evocative mélange of elements—Piotr pays homage to Dadaism, in particular its practitioner Kurt Schwitters. He cites an epiphany several years ago that profoundly changed his practice: he was wading through grain one sunny day during harvest season in Germany while considering abstract painting, and the relationship between nature and culture presented itself as his muse. Since then, through the uncanny combination of unconventional components in his art, Piotr has been exploring a litany of metaphysical questions: What exactly is perception? What constitutes the experience of art? What is the relationship between egg shells, grains, bees, beeswax and abstraction? What is the difference between an art gallery, a zoo and nature? And how is it that animals improve human observational faculties and cause people to focus, and as a result see more?

Piotr Lutyński was born in 1962 in the hills of southern Poland. He attended the Antoni Kenar Fine Arts Lyceum in the mountain resort of Zakopane and specialized in graphic design at the University of Silesia, from which he graduated in 1990. A painter, sculptor, installation artist, performer and composer, Piotr creates “total musical and visual shows.” Goats and birds appeared in his exhibition *Bird Column Project* (2003), horses in *Between a horse and a painting* (2003) and carp in *Music for Fish* (2005). He is fascinated by natural materials, folklore and the first avant-garde. Piotr has participated in numerous group exhibitions and had solo exhibitions in Krakow's leading venues, including the Bunkier Sztuki, Starmach and Zderzak galleries, and at Warsaw's Foksal Gallery. He lives and works in Krakow, Poland.

Piotr Lutyński's residency is part of Art in General's Eastern European Residency Exchange, which gives artists the opportunity to create a new work and to meet and interact with art communities in Eastern Europe and New York City. His exhibition is presented in collaboration with the Bunkier Sztuki gallery in Krakow, Poland.

Eastern European Residency Exchange

The Eastern European Residency Exchange is made possible by the Trust for Mutual Understanding and the National Endowment for the Arts. Support of New York artists is provided by the Jerome Foundation.



About Art in General

Founded in 1981 in Lower Manhattan, Art in General is a nonprofit organization that assists artists with the production and presentation of new work. It changes in response to the needs of artists with the mission of informing and engaging the public about their work. In 25 years, Art in General has emerged as one of New York City's leading nonprofits devoted to supporting and stimulating the creation of contemporary art, providing an environment in which artists can exhibit unconventional work and exchange ideas with their peers. Art in General has exhibited the work of nearly 5,000 artists working across a wide range of media.

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