



Been Up So Long It Looks Like Down To Me

September 15 to November 4, 2007

Opening Reception: Friday September 14, 7pm

Sue de Beer, Miles Coolidge, Sam Durant,
Rodney Graham, Henrik Håkansson, William Hunt,
Knowles Eddy Knowles, Simon Dybbroe Møller,
Jonathan Monk, Filipa Raposo, Bruce Nauman,
Kay Rosen, Mungo Thomson, Christopher Williams

William Hunt, *The Impotence Of Radicalism In The Face Of All These Extreme Positions*, 2006, performance, approximately duration 10 minutes. Image courtesy IBID PROJECTS, London.

Presentation House Gallery is pleased to announce *Been Up So Long It Looks Like Down to Me*, a group exhibition featuring fourteen internationally recognized artists who examine the concept of inversion with works of art that are literally and figuratively upside-down, turned over, or skewed off-axis. Each artist questions conventions of alignment and orientation, challenging the assumptions with which we both perceive and represent the world.

The exhibition will feature 22 works, including the North American premiere of British-based artist William Hunt. Hunt is well known for musical performances enacted under conditions of extreme physical duress, and in *The Impotence of Radicalism in the Face of All These Extreme Positions* (2005) will sing and play guitar while suspended upside-down from the gallery ceiling.

In addition, and in conjunction with Vancouver's Pacific Cinémathèque, Presentation House Gallery will screen projected works by American artists Sam Durant and Bruce Nauman in a special one-night cinema event. Durant's dual-screen video installation *Entropy in Reverse (Gimme Shelter Backwards)* (1999) imagines alternate histories of the fractious events of late-sixties America, while Nauman's *Pulling Mouth* (1969) presents the artist's absurd, aggressive actions against his own body.

In exploring the multiple perspectives between wrong-side-up and right-side-down, *Been Up So Long It Looks Like Down to Me* investigates the strategy of inversion as a complex framework for new orders of visual, sensory and cognitive experiences, while drawing relationships to how these experiences reshape our recognition of established aesthetic, social, and cultural formations.

Guest curated by Vancouver artist Mark Soo.

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Film Screening: Sam Durant's "Entropy in Reverse (Gimme Shelter Backwards)"
and Bruce Nauman's "Pulling Mouth"

Thursday, September 20th 7:30 and 8:45, Pacific Cinémathèque, 1131 Howe Street

Catalogue launch and performance featuring William Hunt
Saturday, October 13th 7pm (see image)

Press contact for interviews and images: Diane Evans, 604.986.1351