

OR GALLERY PRESS RELEASE

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Gallery Hours 12 to 5
Tuesday to Saturday

Jason Breeden, Tony Romano, and Corin Sworn

EXPLORATIONS IN PSYCHIC GEOGRAPHY

March 29 to April 26 2003

Opening Saturday March 29

5pm to 8pm*

Accompanied with a musical performance by **THE DEPARTMENT** at 6pm

The first in a series of group shows at the Or exploring tangents associated with Psychic Geography. Stemming from the Situationist Internationale (SI) term psychogeography, Psychic Geography deals with leisure economies, distraction, collaboration, fantasy, and the spiritualization of civilization, all while holding possible utopias at arm's length. Psychic Geography departs from the SI's original intent by freeing the geography from a locus. While still remaining locked to spatial relations, it is a cognitive geography, testing the principles of psychogeography within the gallery space.

By using New Wave tropes well past their peak, Jacques Rivette's film *Celine and Julie Go Boating* draws on the study of psychology and magic to illustrate the possible journeys of the mind. The three exhibiting artists have been given a cut-up segment of this film as a basis for response.

Psychic Geography as mapping of an immaterial, infinite space – the mind. This is a realm without reference, without horizon, where scale has no meaning. How do we explain terrain? Architecture is a structuring form that delineates exterior from interior. In the film *Celine and Julie go Boating* the characters discover a conduit that allows them to move through a corporeal architecture into each other's minds. Generally people use the symbolic (words, facial patterns, pictures) to enable them to express their mental terrain. Unable to display the material landscape, Tony and I have paraphrased its constructions and denotations through symbolic architectures.

- Corin Sworn

Corin Sworn is an emerging artist, currently living in London. Her work has exhibited in London, Vancouver and Berlin. Tony Romano is a graduate from the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, and is an emerging artist living in Toronto. Jason Breeden is an artist based in San Francisco, New Mexico and occasionally Sweden. This is first exhibition in Canada.

The facts of a nation are very strange indeed, perhaps then a half magical idea is the quickest way to truth.

-Situationist International

*Please note new opening time

The Or Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of the Canada Council for the Arts, the Province of BC through the BC Arts Council, the BC Gaming Commission, the City of Vancouver, and all our volunteers. The Or Gallery is a member of the Pacific Association of Artist Run Centres (PAARC).



Pile of Boxes, found on March 10, 2003, at Spadina and Dundas.



File of Boxes, found on March 10, 2003, at Spadina and Dundas.

Corin Sworn

Corin Sworn is an active Vancouver artist, writer, and curator. Sworn has exhibited extensively both locally and internationally and is represented by the VTO Gallery in London.

Jason Breeden's Corporate Fatalism

Jason Breeden's suite of **Corporate Fatalism** manifests itself in three parts.

The first is a drawing **Manifesto**, a series of doodle-like play-scapes comprised of elements of utopian architecture, once someone has jumped of the imaginary balcony (a phone rings?)

Breeden posits drawing or the exhibition of drawings or framed work, the compiling of squares, as being a possibly self-indulgent revolutionary act that annihilates itself in order to exist as an action.

The second are superfluous documents of freedom; the astrological chart of a 300 year old golden spruce tree, cut down by "eco-terrorist" Grant Hadwin in Port Clements, B.C. In order for the chart to be constructed by astrologer Jeff Chute, a specific birth date had to be selected. Breeden chose January 20th 1692, the day Elizabeth Parris and Abigail Williams began showing symptoms of wyrding ways; the day that eventually led to the Salem Witch trials. The remaining documents are evidences of star ownership and it coordinates in "the heavens".

Breeden's video piece, projected on the concrete wall in the gallery office, bridges a Board Room and a dinner party with curator and artists reciting his script.

What is corporate fatalism? Is it, in the end, the complete discounting of pure action? And is pure action the founding moment of a revolutionary act?

Breeden's marginal escape in into the doodle, or into escapism itself:

"As famous as anything standing over a river canyon-by this I mean to see how long it takes to make"

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Jason Breeden, transcribed from memory by Sydney Hermant

"Yeah, I know that movie"

Do you want me to send you the cut-up, or would you rather just not see it-

I don't know, no-well, maybe-yeah just go ahead-

Where should I send it? Where are you?

Well, I'm in Phoenix at the airport-

What are you doing at the airport?

I have my interview with the Swedish Embassy- I had to give them my passport-

What' the Swedish embassy doing in Phoenix?

It's not, it's in Chicago, but I had to fly there for the phone call.

Are you going to be able to get into the county?

Which country?

Canada, for the show-

Oh yeah, when is it again?

March-

Okay well. March, maybe I'll come up in February-and just work there for awhile-I need to just work for a while

So do you want us to find you a room or something?

Yeah maybe for Feb first-or Sarah 's coming and we might go to Mexico-

To your Dad's?

No, further south-I don't know

Is she moving back here?

No. just for a couple of weeks

Yeah but I think I have a job in New York for a couple of weeks-

So you are going to New York?
So should I send it there?

No, well-maybe-maybe send it to New Mexico

So should we get you a room, cause you can't stay with us for two months-you know that 's a bad idea.

Jason, it's three in the morning-where are you?

I'm in San Fransisco-

I thought you were going tot New York-yeah well, I drove here- I rented a car-

What are you doing?

I bought a star-that cut-up was like 13 seconds long-

You bought a star-
How? I know, I told you it was short

I was driving through the desert; I thought I would buy a star. There's like barely a point to it

I didn't know one was able to buy a star. I know-it's more of a placebo

So, where is it?

I don't' know exactly, well actually I do, they are sending me a chart, but it will be in New Mexico, so I can't tell you now-

Do you have to pay property taxes?

Well probably, but it's mine anyhow-I named it

Laughter

Oh god, what did you name it?

Well, I don't know why I named it that, it just came to me-

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Jason Breeden, transcribed from memory by Sydney Hermant

What? What did you name it?

I.P Freely.

Pause

So you do.

Jason every time you call I the middle of the night, I think it's the alarm company and someone is breaking into the gallery- Where are you?

New York.

Are you coming here?

Yeah, Sarah's here-I can stay at this apartment here for awhile-I'm working- When's the show again? I have to go to New Mexico before I come up.

So I guess you don't want a room- We're moving in a couple of days so don't just show up at the doorstep at dawn, we won't be there-

Okay, I'll phone you, same phone number?

Jason, what are you making for the show-you haven't told me what you are making-

Oh well you've seen some of the drawing-a lot of drawings-the star- I 'm working on something else - Do you know who Grant Hadwin is?

No-

There's a golden tree up there-where you live-

Oh yeah, a golden tree- I haven't heard of this tree-

Do you think Shayne and Holly will be around?

Yeah, probably, why?

I want to make a video, can I use your camera?

Yeah, of course, should I call them? When are you coming?

I don't know around the 10th maybe- Do you know an astrologer? I need to find an astrologer-

What for?

Just this- never mind.

Hello is this Sydney Hermant?

Yes, who's this?

Hello this is Canada Customs and Immigration, are you expecting a visitor?

Visitor? Oh, yes Jason. Is he there?

Do you know Jason 's last name?

Yes, Breeden, Jason Breeden.

What's your relationship with Jason Breeden ma'am?

Do you realize it's five o'clock in the morning? I mean I am sick.

Yes I am sorry but when someone shows up at the border with no hotel or motel booked, we have to call.

Well I have to get my housecoat, can I do that?

Yes.

Pause

Okay, I run an art gallery here in Vancouver and he is an artist who is exhibiting.

Okay.

Can you tell him to call me when he gets to the station?

Okay, thank-you.

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