





PRESS RELEASE

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ART PARTS CREATES UNIQUE SHOP FOR THE NEW MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Art Parts--artist Daina Shobrys--will create an unusual installation February 3 through April 24 in the lobby and window on Broadway at The New Museum of Contemporary Art. "Museum Notions," Art Parts's first New York exhibition, is a satire on museum shops and the concept of merchandise marketing in cultural institutions in general.

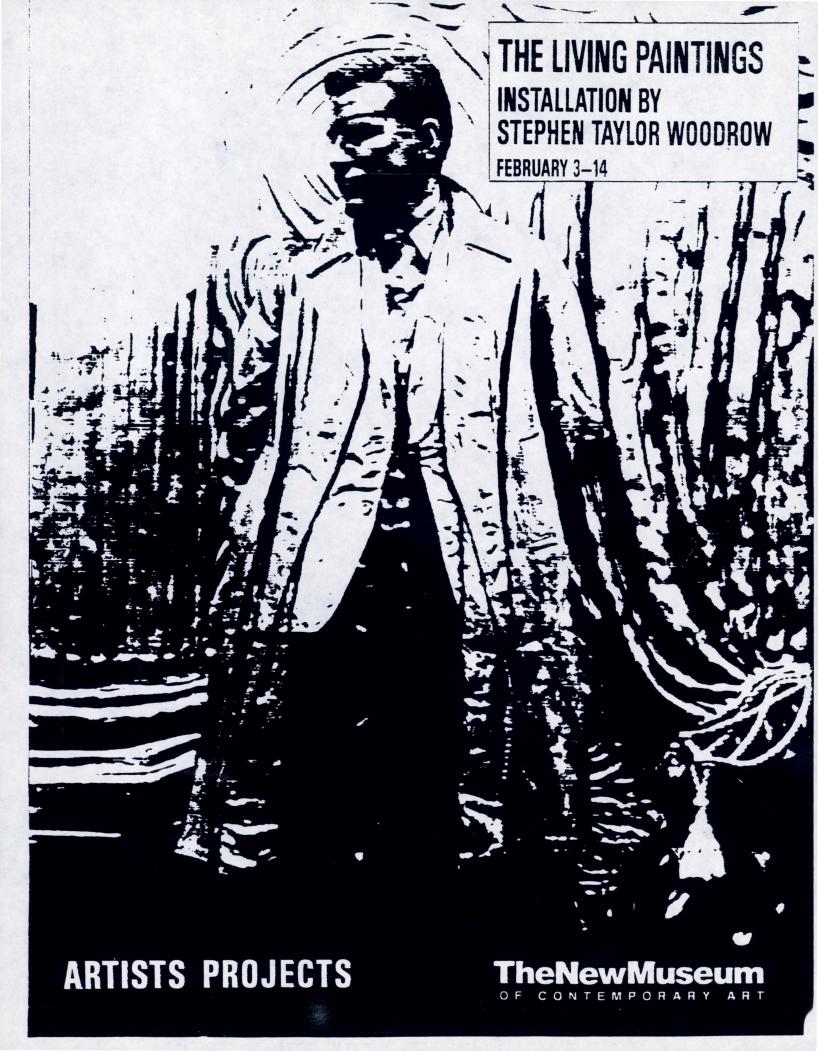
Many major institutions have appropriated a special promotional image, such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art's cat and the New York Public Library's lion.

Rather than knocking off beloved and revered masterpieces, Art Parts has developed the Culture Vulture—a symbol for the rapacious and predatory appetite of the contemporary art scene, and a nudge at the Museum itself for its role in the promotion and validation of the contemporary art community.

The Culture Vulture is emblazoned on T-shirts, clocks, watches, key-chains-all reproductions of contemporary artworks, the originals themselves
mass-produced-- and a variety of commissioned items which are displayed in
high-tech shelving in the lobby. All items are for sale to benefit the Museum's
exhibitions and programs.

"Museum Notions" is presented as part of the Museum's ARTISTS PROJECTS program. Inspired by the desire to expand the Museum's boundaries both physically and conceptually beyond the realm of traditional exhibition formats, ARTISTS PROJECTS are meant to be experimental, provocative and innovative and to use the spaces and resources in challenging ways. Funding for "Museum Notions" was provided by the New York State Council on the Arts and Art Matters, Inc.

The New Museum of Contemporary Art is located at 583 Broadway between Prince and Houston Streets in Soho. Hours are Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, noon to 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, noon to 8 p.m.; Monday and Tuesday, closed. Admission is by suggested contribution: \$2.50 general; \$1.50 artists, students and seniors; members and children under 12 admitted free.





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LIVING PAINTINGS ON VIEW AT THE NEW MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

"The Living Paintings," an extraordinary combination of visual and performance art, will be on view February 3 through February 14 in the main gallery at The New Museum of Contemporary Art. This is the first United States appearance by "The Living Paintings," the brainchild of British artist Stephen Taylor Woodrow.

Part theater, part performance, part "pure" painting taken to its illogical extreme, "The Living Paintings" explores the interrelationship between reality and illusion, dramatically underscoring the fact that both are ambiguous concepts. Entirely painted (including matching contact lenses) and completely silent, the artists comprising "The Living Paintings" hang on the Museum's walls for up to seven hours each day, reinstituting the tradition of the <u>tableau vivant</u> in a contemporary context. The artists do interact with observers—sometimes making physical contact—adding new meaning to the interchange between the viewer and the art object, subverting and redefining the accepted hierarchy where the viewer is the controller of the terms of interaction.

"The Living Paintings" inaugurates the Museum's ARTISTS PROJECTS program.

Inspired by the desire to expand the Museum's boundaries both physically and conceptually beyond the realm of traditional exhibition formats, ARTISTS PROJECTS are meant to be experimental, provocative and innovative and to use the Museum's spaces and resources in challenging ways.

Funding for "The Living Paintings" was provided by the New York State Council on the Arts and the British Council.

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