



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Nathalie Djurberg and Hans Berg, *I'm Saving this Egg for Later*, 2010 – 2011. SD video, color, sound; 22 minutes, 23 seconds. Courtesy the artist and Kadist Foundation.

HIGH LINE ART PRESENTS

BEFORE THE GIF

AN EXHIBITION IN VIDEO FORMAT ON HIGH LINE CHANNEL 14

FEATURING WORKS BY NATHALIE DJURBERG AND HANS BERG, KOTA EZAWA, LAUREN KELLEY, ALLISON SCHULNIK, SUN XUN, AND KEIICHI TANAAMI

**JULY 9 – SEPTEMBER 2, 2015 | DAILY, BEGINNING AT 7:00 PM
14TH STREET PASSAGE, ON THE HIGH LINE AT WEST 14TH STREET**

New York, NY (July 9, 2015) – Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art is pleased to announce *Before the GIF*, an exhibition in video format to be screened daily beginning at 7:00 PM from July 9 to September 2, 2015 on High Line Channel 14, a series of outdoor projections of art videos in the semi-enclosed passageway on the High Line at West 14th Street. *Before the GIF* features a selection of film and video from artists who use a wide range of animation techniques, including stop-motion, clay animation, and hand-drawn animated sketches. The majority of the works featured in the program were created after the introduction and popularization of the GIF (Graphic Interface Format), the now-ubiquitous digital animation form. As digital animation becomes increasingly sophisticated; ever more convincingly replacing live action filming, these artists explore the possibilities unique to analog animation forms whose primary goal is keen creativity, rather than mimetic trickery.

Nathalie Djurberg (b. 1978, Sweden) and **Hans Berg's** (b. 1978, Sweden) *I'm A Wild Animal* (2011) and *I'm Saving this Egg for Later* (2011) are two clay animations depicting strange and emotional interactions between humans and animals. In *Take Off* (2013), **Kota Ezawa** (b. 1969, Germany) recreates the taped footage of George W. Bush taking off in a Marine One helicopter on C-SPAN in a watercolor-based rotoscope-style animation. **Lauren**





Kelley's (1975, United States) *True Falsetto*, 2011 pans across an abandoned picnic, as a male voice off screen narrates the planning undertaken for his unrealized romantic springtime meal.

Allison Schulnik's (b. 1978, United States) clay animation *Eager* (2014) features a host of characters somewhere between human, animal, and imaginary in an abstract dance and through a woodland journey. **SUN Xun's** (b. 1980, China) stop-motion animations of his painterly charcoal drawings in *Shock of Time* (2006) and *People's Republic of Zoo* (2009) follow the story of a man drawn on reams of newspaper pages and an ominous menagerie of wild and domesticated animals. **Keiichi Tanaami's** (b. 1936, Japan) *OH! YOKO!*, (1973) is a colorful and exuberant cartoon portrait of Yoko Ono and John Lennon in their heyday of yellow submarines and Bed-Ins.

ABOUT HIGH LINE ART

Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art commissions and produces public art projects on and around the High Line. Founded in 2009, High Line Art presents a wide array of artwork including site-specific commissions, exhibitions, performances, video programs, and a series of billboard interventions. Curated by Cecilia Alemani, the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art, and produced by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art invites artists to think of creative ways to engage with the uniqueness of the architecture, history, and design of the High Line and to foster a productive dialogue with the surrounding neighborhood and urban landscape.

Major support for High Line Art comes from Donald R. Mullen, Jr. and The Brown Foundation, Inc. of Houston. High Line Art is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the New York City Council and from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE HIGH LINE

Friends of the High Line raises 98% of the High Line's annual budget. Owned by the City of New York, the High Line is a public park maintained, operated, and programmed by Friends of the High Line, in partnership with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.

For further information on High Line Art, please visit art.thehighline.org.

MEDIA CONTACT

Ashley Tickle | High Line Art Communications Manager | Friends of the High Line
(212) 206-9922 x2101 | ashley.tickle@thehighline.org

