

Press Release

“We Are All Cats”

Curated by Dan Graham and Mieko Meguro

18 April – 23 May 2015

Opening on 17 April, 6 – 8 PM

The concept for “We Are All Cats” began one day when I was on an airplane, sitting across from a little boy. The flight was seven hours long, and the entire time he was deeply engrossed in an encyclopedic-style sticker book about animals. I was envious of the boy. I wanted that book. After I returned to New York I bought several of my own sticker books.

From them I learned that Lion is a cat. I was shocked. I had believed that he was a dog. His features make me think he is a dog. However, it turns out that most, infamous, beautiful beasts are cats. Cheetah is a cat. Cougar is a cat. Tiger is a cat. This revelation was the inspiration for my book “We Are All Cats.”

That book brought me another surprise: it was popular. Cats became a common topic of discussion among friends, and soon there were others eager to make cat-related work. From a little lion sticker there grew a large group show, featuring work by incredible artists with a variety of styles.

The work ranges from video installations by Frank Stürmer, to a sculpture by Daniel Brant, to photographs by Dan Graham of Chan Marshall of the rock group “Cat Power” with Chan holding a box containing a cute cat. Wineke Gartz, a versatile Dutch artist, has a small, quirky drawing series she created, inspired by Google searches for “How to draw a cat.” Trevor Shimizu is showing a diptych and three paintings of women depicted as sexy cats.

The show is intimate, and fun. Each of the artists is a cat-lover, and the earnest enjoyment each artist takes from his/her subject fills the show with a delightful warmth. “We Are All Cats” is a wonderful fit for the cozy atmosphere of Karma International.

-Mieko Meguro

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