

# MARC JANCOU CONTEMPORARY

For Immediate Release

Slawomir Elsner  
*Night After Night*

May 29 - July 12, 2008

Opening Reception and Book Signing: Thursday, May 29, 6-8 pm



*Cien*, oil on canvas, 2008



*Grandpa's House*, oil on canvas, 2008

Marc Jancou Contemporary is pleased to announce the opening of the exhibition *Night After Night*. This will be Slawomir Elsner's first solo show in New York.

*Night After Night* includes nine new paintings that present ambiguous narratives with subtle, mysterious undertones. *Idol* features a lone microphone on a darkened stage, with no performer in sight. This eerie sense of absence is echoed in the series *Seven Rooms from Grandfather's House*, a group of paintings based on photographs taken by Elsner in 2000. The paintings depict rooms in which details are obscured by dark shadows, creating an unsettling sense of abandonment. *Cien* reveals brightly colored paint peeling off a gray wall, taking the shape of a human figure. This series was inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's paper cutouts, which were used to illustrate stories inspired by everyday events. As in all Elsner's work, the paintings in this show reinterpret mundane scenes from daily life to create new meaning and invite multiple interpretations.

Born in 1976 in Wodzislaw, Poland, Slawomir Elsner lives and works in Berlin. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Kassel. Solo exhibitions include Johnen Galerie, Berlin; Sutton Lane, Paris; Me.di.um, St. Barthelemy; Galerie Rüdiger Schöttle, Munich; Johnen + Schöttle, Cologne; Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens, Deurle, Belgium; Galerie Gebr. Lehmann, Dresden; and Galerie Raster, Warsaw. Group exhibitions include BFAS Blondeau Fine Art Services, Geneva; Musée cantonal des Beaux-Arts, Lausanne; *Made in Germany*, Sprengel Museum, Kestnengesellschaft Kunstverein, Hannover; Hypo Kunsthalle, Munich; Hamburger Bahnhof, Museum for Contemporary Art, Berlin; Rubell Family Collection, Miami; Kukje Gallery, Seoul; Sammlung Olbricht, Museum Morsbroich, Leverkusen, Germany; and Nürnberger Kunstverein, Nuremberg.

A forthcoming monograph will be published by Dumont Buchverlag and will be available at the opening reception for a book signing by Slawomir Elsner on May 29th from 6-8 pm.

For more information please contact [info@marcjancou.com](mailto:info@marcjancou.com).



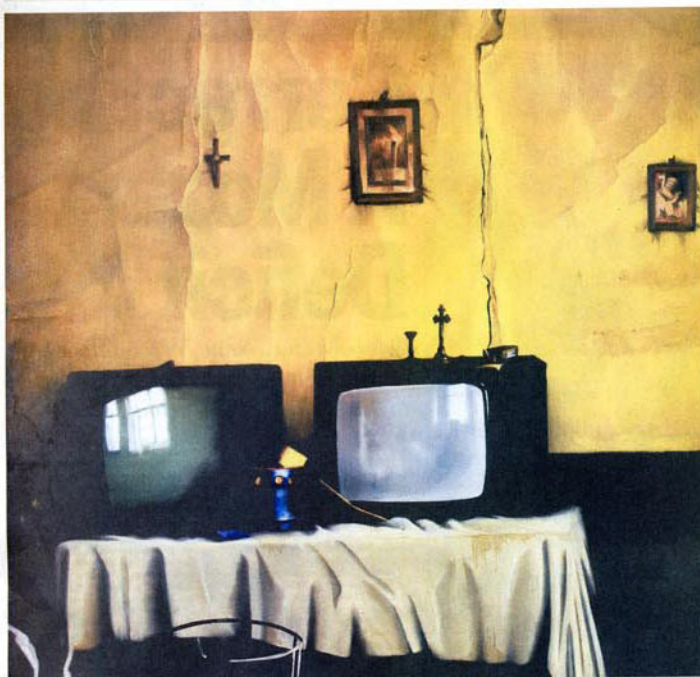
**Arts+SELECTS**

**DANCE**

**OUT OF BODY** The Baryshnikov Arts Center presents **Footwa d'Imobilité**, who dances the American premiere of his solo work "Benjamin de Boullis." Footwa d'Imobilité is the pseudonym of choreographer **Frédéric Gafner**, a native of Switzerland, who gained recognition during his seven years with the Merce Cunningham Dance Company. Since departing the company in 1998, Mr. Gafner has choreographed a number of pieces, including this evening-length solo inspired by the neurologist Olaf Blanke's theory of *décorporation*, or the physical sensation of out-of-body experience. *Thursday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m., 37 Arts building, Baryshnikov Arts Center, 450 W. 37th St., between Ninth and Tenth avenues, 212-279-4200, \$20.*



FRÉDÉRIC GAFNER



SLAWOMIR ELSNER/MARC JANCOU CONTEMPORARY

**DANCE**

**DARK COMEDY** A modern dance troupe, the Doorknob Company, performs "The Miracle Show and the Death of Optimism." Under the direction of the group's co-founders, **Elisabeth Motley** and **Shannon Gillen**, dancers re-create a theatrical chain of events, including a mock funeral for optimism. In it, dancers don cone-shaped black caps bearing the word "funeral," while chanting phrases such as "Just because you take the L train does not make you cool." The show

**GALLERY-GOING**

**PLACES** Marc Jancou Contemporary presents "Night After Night," an exhibit of paintings by **Slawomir Elsner**. Microphones, empty chairs, and televisions fill the uninhabited spaces, as in "Grandpa's House (Room 4)" (2008), above. The dark shadows and muted palettes of Mr. Elsner's artworks give a melancholy cast to the interiors. This is the artist's first solo show in New York; he lives and works in Berlin. *Through Saturday, July 12, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Marc Jancou Contemporary, Great Jones Alley, between Broadway and 4th Street, 212-473-2100, free.*

fic's Rhythm & Blues Festival at MetroTech. The band's sound fuses Afro-Cuban rhythms and Portuguese Creole melodies with Congolese rumba beats. Orchestra Baobab played a key role in the revival of Dakar's music scene in the 1970s, and has recorded several albums with singer Youssou N'Dour at the boards. The outdoor concert is held on the lawn at MetroTech Commons in downtown Brooklyn. *Thursday, noon, MetroTech Commons, between Jay and Duffield streets, near the corner of Flatbush and Myrtle avenues, Brooklyn*

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