

# GALERIE MARIAN GOODMAN

## DAN GRAHAM

April 25 - 30 May, 2009

Marian Goodman Gallery is pleased to announce a new exhibition of work by Dan Graham which will be open to the public from Saturday, April 25 through Saturday, May 30, 2009.

The exhibition will present Dan Graham's pavilion, *Curves For E.S.*, 2005, which was presented at the Venice Biennial in 2007. Made of two-way mirror glass and steel, using the curved anamorphic surfaces that have been increasingly present in Dan Graham's work, this pavilion refers loosely to the sweeping curves of Neo-Baroque, whilst also paying homage to the Finnish-born architect Eero Saarinen.

On view in the basement of the gallery will be five models of pavilions recently realized in Europe: *'Half Cylinder/ Perforated Steel Triangular Enclosure'*, 2008; *'Two V's'* (2002/2005); *'Two Half Cylinders Off-Aligned'*, 2000; *'One Straight Line Crossed by One Curved Line'*, 2007-08; and *'Half Square / Half Crazy'*, 2004. Two videos will be screened with the models, showing the pavilions installed in their chosen surroundings.

The gallery show will run concurrently with the artist's first North American retrospective *"Dan Graham, Beyond"*, which opened on February 15th at MoCA, Los Angeles and will travel to the Whitney Museum in June 2009, and the Walker Art Center in the Fall 2009. The retrospective examines Graham's entire body of work in a focused selection of photographs, film and video, conceptual projects for museum pages, drawings, prints, and writings.

Dan Graham's models and pavilions have been shown at the gallery in New York in 2009 and in 2000. In 2002 the gallery presented the artist's seminal films of the late 60s and early 70s. In the early films, the mutability between observer and observed can be seen as an antecedent for the duality of transparency and reflection that comes later in the pavilions – in the reflective anamorphic surfaces which are both transparent and mirror the surrounding landscape, and provide a break with rectilinear form. Democratically rooted in everyday urban life and activity, Graham's pavilions are functional structures, hybrids between sculpture and architecture. They have sources in architecture and urban design; the skyscraper and two-way mirror corporate office buildings; 18th century English landscape design; the folly & the picturesque; elliptical neo-Baroque space and the Rococo.

The five models on view continue a practice that began in the 1970s when Dan Graham began exhibiting his models in museum and gallery spaces as a body of sculpture, either preceding or following the built pavilions.

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These models have recently been realized as sculpture pavilions in Europe: "*Half Cylinder/ Perforated Steel Triangular Enclosure*" in Kortrijk, Belgium; '*Two V's*' and '*2 Half-Cylinders off-Aligned*' in Brussels; '*One Straight Line Crossed by One Curved Line*' in Basel; and '*Half Square/ Half Crazy*', in Como. Regarding the latter, a pavilion completed on the piazza of Giuseppe Terragni's Casa del Fascio in Como, Italy. Graham describes being drawn to the complexity of the reflections and transparency inside and outside, and the relation of the building to the spectator:

"My work often involves humorous parody. Here the title could relate to myself when I started making art: half square, half crazy. Or it could relate to the square—piazza- on which it sits, or to the Casa itself and to its two anamorphic sides to the 'crazy' reflections. I try to add to reductive forms, in Robert Venturi's words, 'complexity and contradiction'. I always try to combine opposites in my work...Both the Duomo and the Casa del Fascio are central monuments of Como. I wanted the two buildings to be optically superimposed: the curved sides echo the Duomo, while the two rectangular sides of the pavilion mirror the exterior of the Casa." – Dan Graham in *Half Square, Half Crazy* (pub. by Charta, 2005)

Other realized pavilions by Graham include: "*From Mannerism to Rococo*" (2007); "*Yin/Yang Pavilion*" (1997/2002), MIT, Cambridge, MA (in Steven Holl's dormitory); "*Bisected Triangle Inside Curve*", Madison Square Park, New York (2002); "*Waterloo Sunset*" (2002-2003), The Hayward Gallery, London; "*Homage to Vilanova Artigas*" (2006), the Sao Paulo Biennial 2006; "*Skateboard Pavilion*" (1989); "*Children's Pavilion*" (1989-91); "*Café Bravo*" for Kunst Werke, Berlin (1998); and "*Rooftop Urban Park Project*" for Dia Arts Center, NY (1981/91).

Recent solo shows of Graham's work include exhibitions at Marian Goodman Gallery, New York; the Arthur Ross Architecture Gallery, Columbia University, New York (2007); "*Don't Trust Anyone Over Thirty*" (2004), which premiered at Art Basel Miami Beach (2004), and was shown at the The Festival of Vienna, Vienna, and the Berlin State Opera (2005) and the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2006); and "*Dan Graham by Dan Graham*", Chiba City Museum of Art, Chiba and Kitakyushu Museum, Fukuoka, Japan (2003). In 2001-2002 a major retrospective survey (and an accompanying catalogue raisonné, *Dan Graham: Works 1965-2001*, published by Richter Verlag), was seen at the Museu de Arte Contemporanea de Serralves, Porto, Portugal; the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris; Kroller-Muller Museum, Otterlo, the Netherlands; Kunsthale Dusseldorf, Dusseldorf, Germany; Kiasma, Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki.

Dan Graham's work has been exhibited widely, at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Documenta VII, IX, and X in Kassel; Skulptur Projekte '87 and '97, Münster; the Museum of Modern Art, Oxford; and the National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto and Tokyo.