

PRESS RELEASE

November 4, 2003

Editions Fawbush is pleased to announce two new sculptural editions with Sue De Beer: *Mr. Kitty* and *Untitled (Pink Guitar)*, 2003. Both of these sculptures are part of De Beer's *Hans und Grete*, the artist's latest large-scale two-channel video installation. Stephen Hilger writes of the project, "In *Hans und Grete*, fictional acts of terror are presented through the lens of teenage pop culture obsession. The video brims with allusions to those subcultures in which youth movements are especially fluent: horror movies, video games, psychedelic rock, metal and goth." The set pieces' hand-made quality is a typical example of the artist's use of stylistic fakery, which she uses to portray the often-violent interior world of the American teen, to great effect.

Mr. Kitty becomes a character in itself when it is blown up to gigantic size and placed in the room in which the audience watches *Hans und Grete*. Its co-stars are the other stuffed animals pulled out of the bedroom sets and also made extra-large. As the viewer sits, sprawls or cuddles with the large pillows and watches the progression of the film, he or she is engulfed even further in the world that De Beer creates. *Mr. Kitty* becomes a real-life personality, as well as the bedroom prop incorporated into the film's narrative, and another layer of meaning is created: another gap in 'reality' is bridged. The relationship between 'real' and 'fake' is questioned as one sits with *Mr. Kitty* and studies the film.

SUE DE BEER
Mr. Kitty, 2003
 Fake fur, canvas, silk,
 cotton, synthetic filler
 86 x 48 x 36 inches, approx.
 Edition of 6



In the film, *Untitled (Pink Guitar)* belongs to Seth, a character with aspirations to be a Rock Star. He uses the guitar to create his particular fantasy, escaping into this world as he plays (essentially) air-guitar and rocks out in his bedroom. It is a humorous yet slightly sad moment in the film. Like all of the other props in *Hans und Grete*, his guitar is clearly not real. However, its iconography defines the boy's personality, who's world is saturated in various rebellious subcultures. This set piece is essential in creating an easily identifiable character, one filled with angst, longing and desire. Seth's guitar is eventually destroyed in the film after he plays it to death.

De Beer has exhibited at the Brooklyn Museum, the New Museum for Contemporary Art, Deitch Projects, and Postmasters Gallery in New York, L.A.CE. and Sandroni Rey Gallery in Los Angeles and the Center of Contemporary Art Seattle and the forthcoming 2004 Whitney Biennial as well as many others. *Mr. Kitty* has made recent appearances in *Now Playing* at D'Amelio Terras Gallery, NY, *Hans und Grete* at the Kunst Werke, Berlin and the forthcoming installation of *Hans und Grete* at the Brooklyn Museum, NY in Spring 2004. Sue De Beer is represented by Postmasters Gallery, NY.



Untitled (Pink Guitar), 2003
 Birch plywood,
 enamel, silkscreen,
 duct tape, guitar
 strings, hardware,
 silkscreen
 on paper
 43 x 16 x 1 1/2 in.
 Edition of 10

