

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

7 May 2012

PRESS RELEASE
GAGOSIAN GALLERY PARIS
PROJECT SPACE
4 RUE DE PONTHEIU
75008 PARIS
HOURS:

T. +33.1.75.00.05.92
F. +33.1.70.24.87.10
Tue-Sat 11:00am-7:00pm



M I C R O M A N I A

Carl Andre, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Hans Bellmer, Dike Blair, Cecily Brown, Alexander Calder, Joseph Cornell, Marcel Duchamp, Hubert Duprat, Max Ernst, Hans Peter Feldmann, Urs Fischer, Lucio Fontana, Alberto Giacometti, John Giorno, Piero Golia, Douglas Gordon, Keith Haring, Jasper Johns, Paul Klee, Yves Klein, Franz Kline, René Magritte, Man Ray, Claes Oldenburg, Steven Parrino, Francis Picabia, Pablo Picasso, Richard Prince, Ed Ruscha, Kurt Schwitters, Charles Simonds, Elaine Sturtevant, Blair Thurman, Cy Twombly, Piotr Ukiński, Andy Warhol, Tom Wesselmann, and Rachel Whiteread.

Wednesday, 18 April–Thursday, 31 May 2012

Where the telescope ends the microscope begins, and who can say which has the wider vision?
—Victor Hugo

Gagosian Gallery is pleased to present "Micro Mania," an exhibition of the miniature in art featuring nearly sixty small masterpieces by a panorama of modern and contemporary artists including Alexander Calder, Joseph Cornell, Marcel Duchamp, Max Ernst, Yves Klein, Jasper Johns, René Magritte, Francis Picabia, Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol, Cecily Brown and Rachel Whiteread.

Accordingly, the Project Space has been transformed into a modern day cabinet de curiosités. A glass vitrine in the center of the gallery contains diminutive sculptures such as Claes Oldenburg's *Pancakes and Sausages* (1962), Alexander Calder's *Untitled (Standing Mobile)* (1955), Lucio Fontana's *Concetto Spaziale* (1959) and Joseph Cornell's *Untitled* (1933) which measures less than 3 centimeters in diameter. Among the intimate works that line the walls are Jasper Johns *Map* (1960), René Magritte's *Schéhérazade* (1947), Marcel Duchamp's *Peasant's Leg* (1904–05), and Richard Prince's *Untitled (Fireman Joke)* (1987).

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4 RUE DE PONTHEIU - 75008 PARIS T. +33 (0)1 75 00 05 92 F. +33 (0)1 70 24 87 10

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These small scale works seem belong to a separate, otherworldly realm where the rules of the physical world may no longer hold. With proportions akin to those of a children's toy or bibelot, they may function as the starting point to a private narrative and act as an agent for nostalgia and fantasy. Taking inspiration from artist and poet Joe Brainard's 1975 exhibition "Think Tiny," as well as Voltaire's science-fiction story *Micromegas*—which strives to demonstrate that importance is not equitably reduced with size—"Micro Mania" explores the aesthetic and imaginative qualities unique to the craft of the miniature and creates a dialogue between artists working in very different time periods, mediums and agendas.

Press Enquiries

Claudine Colin Communication
Contact: Dorelia Baird-Smith
28 rue de Sévigné
75004 Paris
E. dorelia@claudinecolin.com
T. +33.1.42.72.60.01
WWW.CLAUDINECOLIN.COM

For all other information please contact the gallery at paris@gagosian.com or at +33.1.75.00.05.92.