

# parlour

**Life Goes On**  
**May 16 – 17, 2009**

"What I want to do is create an independent object which has its existence in a world outside of both the real world as we know it and the world of art."

-Claes Oldenburg

Parlour No. 5 presents *Life Goes On*, a show of still life objects by Lane Arthur, Colleen Asper, Jennifer Dudley, Evie Falci, Rashawn Griffin, Dave Hardy, Chip Hughes, Hein Koh, Ted Mineo, Dane Nester, Kyle Smith, and Andrzej Zielinski.

The objects represented in *Life Goes On* are quotidian. A wine bottle, a cellphone, a birthday cake—the static population of a home. Within the context of Parlour these works are camouflaged, nestled within an environment of concurrent objects.

This image of the still life in a domestic space illustrates a tautology inherent in the genre, classically represented by 17th century Dutch painting, in which art's function as a luxury object takes the form of depicting another luxury object, often of identical value. Desire is free to ping-pong between the object depicted in paint and the object itself, leaving still life without the ennobling narrative associations more freely granted to the equally traditional genres of portraiture or landscape. Its contemporary associations fare not much better; as a populist form, it lacks the kitschy credentials that come with bad taste and instead calls to mind a quiet, retiring sort of art—something for the home indeed.

Repurposing the home as a place for a public exhibition, rather than a space for the private possessions of its residents, situates the works in *Life Goes On* outside of Oldenburg's "world of art". And, yet, if these works represent objects from Oldenburg's "real world", they stubbornly refuse to be functional members of that world. Still life's status as a tautological luxury here stretches so thin a third sort of object emerges, one that pushes directly against the membrane that separates what we live with from what we look at. In becoming parasitic the work in *Life Goes On* finally assumes the mantle of "independent object".

*Life Goes On* opens on Saturday, May 16th from 7 – 10 PM, and can be viewed on Sunday, March 17th from 12 – 6 PM by appointment only. For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Ciara or Leslie at [parlourinfo@gmail.com](mailto:parlourinfo@gmail.com) or visit [www.parlourdoor.com](http://www.parlourdoor.com).

Colleen Asper is an artist, writer, and co-founder of Ad Hoc Vox, an ongoing series of discussions and events that address a wide range of issues in contemporary art. Ted Mineo is an artist, confectioner, and proprietor of Family Nuts, which will make its public debut at the Art Production Fund LAB this fall. The pair met at a picnic table in '98, continued on to Yale University and moved to Brooklyn after graduation, where they both now live and work. They have collaborated on numerous projects, including designing an alien spaceship for Trampoline Hall, Sheila Heti's sesquiannual lecture series.

Parlour is a new nomadic exhibition space that presents weekend-long exhibitions in different homes throughout New York City. Its impetus is to showcase the work of contemporary artists in a unique and dynamic setting. Parlour was conceived by Ciara Gilmartin and Leslie Rosa-Stumpf. Both are graduates of Sarah Lawrence College. Leslie additionally received her MA in Curatorial Studies from Goldsmiths College in 2006, and now works as a freelance curator. Ciara currently works for an NGO at the United Nations.

directors

ciara gilmartin leslie rosa-stumpf  
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