

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Regen Projects
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John Bock

December 2, 2001 - January 19, 2002
Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 11-5 pm
Lecture: Sunday, December 2 at 6 pm

Regen Projects is pleased to announce the premiere Los Angeles exhibition by Berlin-based artist, **John Bock**. **Bock** will be conducting an action/lecture at the gallery and the exhibition will consist of the environment **Bock** constructs for the performance and the video documenting the event. Since his studies at the Hochschule für Bildende Künste in Hamburg, **Bock's** work has evolved into environments hand crafted from found materials which function as symbolic physical diagrams for his "lectures." As Laura Hoptman writes:

"**Bock** arms himself with ... knitted and sewn objects that he wears when he performs. Although these objects and articles of clothing are lived-in, used, and often destroyed during his lectures, they are not props in the conventional sense because, according to the artist, it is the object that animates the action, not the other way around. When he abandons them in the gallery or museum, they serve as his mute surrogates."

(*"The John Bock Primer."* [projects 71](#). Museum of Modern Art. May 2000)

"... the nucleus of **Bock's** efforts springs from deep roots in modern and avant-garde theater, above all in the "live." What's left over from the performances become trace elements that indeed look like the absurd constructions they are, but in no way replace or fully stand in for the artist's work. ... [**Bock's**] work addresses concerns that are more proper to the theater than the gallery. Indeed, he can be seen to negotiate the longstanding polemic between the Brechtian narrative and the Absurdist poetic image, between a social and a psychological reality."

(Ronald Jones. *Arforum*. Summer 1999)

Recent solo exhibitions of **John Bock's** work have been organized by the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Sprengel Museum, Hanover; the Kunstverein Bremen; the Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg; the Kunstmuseum Bonn; the Kunsthalle Basel; and the Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst, Ghent. **Bock's** work was also featured in the 1999 Venice Biennale.

A monograph, **John Bock: Gribbohm**, was published this year by Hatje Cantz for the Gesellschaft für Aktuelle Kunst in Bremen and the Bonner Kunstverein.

A lecture by John Bock will take place at the gallery on Sunday, December 2, beginning at 6pm. For further information, please contact Shaun Caley Regen or Lisa Overduin at the gallery at 310-276-5424.