

Rush Arts Gallery

526 W26th St. #311, New York, NY

KITCHEN GIRLS & TOY BOYS

Curated by Jonny Star

February 26 – March 7, 2015

OPENING: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2015 6 – 9pm

PERFORMANCE EVENT: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2015 2 – 5pm

ARTISTS: Sindy Butz, Markus Fiedler, Franciscus & Franciscus, Monica Germann & Daniel Lorenzi, Reinhold Gottwald, Sol Kjøk, Jenny Löbert, Honey Jernquist, Lori Nelson, Jen Ray, Scott Snyder, Jonny Star, Sador Weinschlucker.

A kitchen can be more than a space for self-sustenance. It is also a place rife with gender role codifications and feminine clichés. For SUPERUSCHI Kitchen Girls, familiar everyday life situations can develop or degenerate in the kitchen. In their hands, the array of objects and appliances designed for familiar culinary use can change function and challenge our ideas about the "heart of the home". Of course food and its accompanying baggage plays an important role in every kitchen. Its significance can be examined from different cultural and artistic perspectives. So it is with toys. In a traditional conservative view toys belong in the hands of children and at best in a toy chest. Certain toys are often associated with a certain age or sex of a child. Toy Boys have a strong traditional affinity for toys, but they tend to reinterpret and repurpose these everyday objects. They ask, how does it look when the "laws" of age, gender and function concerning toys are not complied with, or if the identity of a Toy Boy is also perceived in a sexual sense?

On February 26th, 2015 through March 7th, 2015, Berlin-based artist and curator, Jonny Star, presents a new iteration of her interdisciplinary SUPERUSCHI shows entitled *kitchen girls & toy boys* at Rush Arts Gallery in Chelsea, NYC. The opening reception of the show will be held on Thursday, February 26th, 2015, 6 - 9 pm at the gallery and will include live performances, additional performances are scheduled for Saturday, February 28th, 2015 from 2 – 5pm. SUPERUSCHI is a platform created by Jonny Star in 2013 for interaction and dialogue between artists and visitors in intimate spaces while exposing and working within the intersections of discipline, tradition, and space, all in the spirit of social sculpture.

For *kitchen girls & toy boys*, Star invited artists from Germany, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and the United States to share their stances on concepts of identity and gender roles, of femininity and masculinity. They will present us their "toy collections" and take us into their glittery self-determined worlds. The sweat, curiosity, courage and enthusiasm of the individual artists will intermingle with and cross-pollinate with the energy of the others. Men and women will slip into their "female and male roles", to become Kitchen Girls and Toy Boys and display their art on the walls, on the floors, on their own bodies and in performances. Feel invited and be part of the show!