

MILLER GALLERY AT CARNEGIE MELLON+ PNCA

2008-2009 EXHIBITION SCHEDULE **PREVIEW**

KEEP IT SLICK:

Infiltrating Capitalism With The Yes Men

Curated by Astria Suparak

Organized by the Feldman Gallery, PNCA

+ Miller Gallery, Carnegie Mellon

PORTLAND, ORE.

Sept. 4–Oct. 26, 2008

@ The Philip Feldman Gallery, Pacific Northwest College of the Arts. In connection with Portland Institute for Contemporary Art's Time Based Arts Festival 2008

- Sept. 4, 5-8pm: **Business Casual Reception**
- Sept. 6, 3-4pm: **How To Be A Yes Man Workshop** with preview clips from their new film. In PNCA room 204.

PITTSBURGH, PA.

Nov. 14 – Jan. 19, 2009

@ Miller Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University

- Nov. 14, 5-6pm: **How To Be A Yes Man Workshop** with preview film clips, Carnegie Mellon School of Art Lecture Series. Location TBA, visit: <http://lectureseri.es>
- Nov. 14, 6-8pm: **Business Casual Reception**



McDonald's McMascots: Rona McRiveter
by the Yes Men

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

“What a wonderful world, where a band of guerrilla media activists does the toothless newsmedia’s job for them, exposing the Matrix of corporate power and government venality for all to see.” – *Mark Dery, The Pyrotechnic Insanitarium: American Culture on the Brink*

This is the first major exhibition of the artist-activist group the Yes Men. Through impersonating representatives from big corporations and government organizations such as ExxonMobil, The World Trade Organization, McDonald's, Halliburton, Dow Chemical, and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, these culture-jamming activists have exposed dehumanizing business practices and enacted ethical “identity correction” since 1999. The Yes Men’s sociopolitical pranks at conferences, on television and on the web have been widely publicized, but never exhibited on this scale.

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In *KEEP IT SLICK*, the elaborate costumes, slapstick videos, outrageous posters and props will be exhibited alongside new works produced for this exhibition. The Yes Men will conduct a workshop that gives an inside look at their methods and urges people to do something better. It will also include preview clips from their new feature length film to be released next year, *The Yes Men Fix the World*. A special publication and artist multiples will be available for purchase. After the premiere of this exhibition at the Pacific Northwest College of the Arts in Portland, Ore., *KEEP IT SLICK* will tour to Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa., and other venues nationally.

This exhibition is organized by the Feldman Gallery at Pacific Northwest College of the Arts and the Miller Gallery at Carnegie Mellon. Thank you to Mack McFarland, Exhibitions Coordinator at the Feldman Gallery.

ABOUT THE YES MEN

The Yes Men have gained international notoriety for impersonating World Trade Organization spokesmen on international TV and at business conferences around the world. They describe what they do as *Identity Correction*. Unlike Identity Theft, which criminals practice with dishonest intent, *Identity Correction* is the art of impersonating a powerful criminal to publicly humiliate them for conspiring against the public good. Their targets have included big bad bureaucracies like the World Trade Organization, nasty world leaders such as George Bush, ugly right-wing think tanks like The Heritage Foundation, and heartless corporations such as Dow Chemical. www.theyesmen.org

ABOUT THE FELDMAN GALLERY AT PNCA

Dedicated to bringing national and international contemporary artists to Portland, the Feldman Gallery at Pacific Northwest College of Art showcases stellar artists who fully participate in a collaborative creative dialogue that includes studio visits, gallery talks and culminates in a public First Thursday opening. The Feldman Gallery is enriched through the College's partnerships with leading artistic and educational institutions including an on-going collaboration between the College and PICA's TBA Festival, which in 2008 brings to the Gallery the culture-jamming activists The Yes Men. www.pnca.edu/exposure/feldman/

ABOUT THE MILLER GALLERY AT CARNEGIE MELLON

The Regina Gouger Miller Gallery at Carnegie Mellon has supported the creation, understanding, and growth of contemporary art through exhibitions, projects, events, and publications since January 2000. The 9,000 square foot space functions as a showcase for experimentation, examination, discovery, and discussion. The gallery aspires to engage diverse audiences, to create and strengthen communities through art, and to stimulate, provoke, and encourage contemplation of the visual arts of our times. The Miller Gallery is a non-collecting facility located in the Purnell Center for the Arts, on Carnegie Mellon's campus in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It is a unit of the College of Fine Arts and named for Regina Gouger Miller, avid art collector, alumna of the School of Art, and principal donor. www.cmu.edu/millergallery

ABOUT THE TIME BASED ART FESTIVAL

The Time-Based Art Festival is a contemporary art festival of regional, national, and international artists presenting theatre, dance, music, film, visual exhibition and installation. PICA presents moments of movement and imagery under bridges, over rivers, on stages and throughout the city—all in Portland, Oregon USA. The TBA Festival examines and celebrates every form of contemporary art and is the only festival of its kind in North America. www.pica.org/tba