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CONSUM(E)ATION

Feed. Fetish. and Fantasy

TUFTS

Organized by students in the Tufts University Museum Studies Certificate Program
Exhibition Planning for the Art Museum Seminar, Spring 1997

CONSUM(E)ATION

*is a juried exhibition organized by students in
the Tufts University Museum Studies Certificate Program
Exhibition Planning for the Art Museum Seminar
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Introductory Note

CONSUM(E)ATION is driven by biological, physiological, and emotional needs and desires. In today's consumer-based society, gratification is often processed, predigested, and packaged. The result is a simulated experience that places our inherent desire for fulfillment under scrutiny. In our search for authenticity, we seek the few components of life still invested with the possibility of enjoyment, as well as fear.

CONSUM(E)ATION is a play on the devouring nature of sex, eating, and consuming, acts of survival that are closely intertwined and share similar social and biological facets. Using sustenance as a metaphor, **CONSUM(E)ATION** examines relationships between food, sexuality and fetishism as sites of memory, pleasure, obsession, and destruction.

CONSUM(E)ATION is a selection of works by ten artists containing a multitude of related meanings which form a disparate union in response to life in our consumer age. This exhibition will provide you with a feast of sensations and will leave you with something to chew on.

expression of primal urges. Documentary in style, the visceral and sexual qualities of the subjects are presented as distortions, perversions, mutilations, and deformities. Linking art to science and creating pseudoscientific photographs, these pictures are couched in a language of humor and irony with a serious concern for the seductive powers of food... These images become a fantasy and a fetish, an obsession and a reality. They are objects of desire.

Enjoyment of food (and the rituals that codify and often intensify this enjoyment) is knit into the very fabric of society, acting as a civilizer, a bond between peoples, a celebration of life itself. — Michelle Stacey, Consumed

Consumerism, in spite of advertisers' and marketers' relentless attempts to render it generic, remains an intensely personal experience, with each of us intersecting the consumer plane in our own highly individualized manner. — Paul Lukas, Inconspicuous Consumption

CATALOG OF WORKS

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|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mia Brownell | <u>Stomachache</u> , oil on canvas, 42"x36", 1996 |
| Aimee Good | <u>Mama's 'Lil Baby Loves Shortening Bread</u> , installation |
| Todd Kancar | <u>Our Day Will Come (2nd Attempt)</u> , installation, 1996 |
| Rebecca T. Long | <u>Suckle</u> , 35"x64"x24", 1996 |
| Molly Murphy | <u>Arsenal</u> , drywall, plaster, 56"x24"x2", 1996 |
| | <u>Cat/Nipple/Mold</u> , rubber, 4"x2"x6" |
| Shoshana Phillips | <u>Clam bake</u> , etching, 18"x24", 1996 |
| | <u>Barbeque</u> , etching, 18"x24", 1996 |
| Beverly E. Rippel | <u>Just Once</u> , oil on linen, 22.5"x42.5", 1996 |
| Mia Rosenblatt | <u>Strawberries</u> , color photo, 20"x16", 1996 |
| | <u>Blood Orange</u> , color photo, 20"x16", 1996 |
| | <u>Turkey Dinner</u> , color photo, 24"x20", 1995 |
| | <u>Fish Head</u> , color photo, 24"x20", 1995 |
| | <u>She Kisses</u> , color photo, 20"x16", 1996 |
| | <u>Kiss Hers</u> , color photo, 20"x16", 1996 |
| Steven Rotter | <u>Swell and Swale</u> , color photo, 16"x20", 1996 |
| | <u>Juicy Chicken</u> , color photo, 24"x20", 1995 |
| Jeff Warmouth | <u>Extraction</u> , video |
| | <u>Target</u> , video |
| | <u>Flag</u> , video |