

RALPH LEMON

(The efflorescence of) Walter

May 11 – June 23, 2007

Curated by Anthony Allen and Claire Tancons

Running parallel to his career as a well-known choreographer and dancer, **Ralph Lemon** has, for many years, also ventured into a number of other artistic fields such as writing, drawing, painting and video-making to research new forms that intersect visual art, language, and movement. *(The efflorescence of) Walter*, Lemon's first solo exhibition, maps out a territory related to his ten-year performance project, *The Geography Trilogy* (1995-2004), a meditation on race, place, and history presented as three distinct dance works at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

This exhibition centers around "a chain of aberrant actions" Lemon developed in collaboration with **Walter Carter**, a 99-year old Mississippian and the main protagonist of the video works. Carter's recorded tasks, shown simultaneously on multiple screens around the central animation of James Baldwin, form an unpredictable and eerily poetic narrative that references sources as diverse as the artists Bruce Nauman and Joseph Beuys, the African-American folktale character Br'er Rabbit, and the artist's personal collection of 45rpm records. Along with drawings and paintings that extend Lemon's exploration of history and material culture, the installation also includes a spaceship made in collaboration with Carter and friends, constructed from recycled backyard materials. Together, the works come together to form an unexpected portrayal of the American South, one both retrospective and prospective, that raises questions about memory, memorialization, and transcendence.

Checklist of the Exhibition



No Audience/Yazoo City (Counter-Memorial), 2002-06

Single channel video on monitor, 07:50 min.

In collaboration with Chelsea Lemon Fetzer

Checklist of Exhibition (continued)



Research Notebooks, 2001-07

Ink and watercolor on paper
7.25 x 5.75 inches each



Attic Space, 2003/2006

Steel, plywood, wallpaper, light fixtures, freezer, four framed b/w photographs and single channel video on monitor

120 x 180 x 104 inches (16 feet x 8 feet 8 inches x 10 feet)

Video in collaboration with Chelsea Lemon Fetzer;
Attic Space sculpture in collaboration with Eric Stone and F. Randy deCelle; Attic Ladder boxes by Nari Ward



Walter Repairing Records, 2006

Single channel video projection, 26:07 min.

In collaboration with Chelsea Lemon Fetzer
(On right side wall of **Attic Space** sculpture)



100 Nebulas (Record Paintings), 2002-04

Acrylic and oil on paper

108 x 108 inches (10 x 10 inches each)



Spaceship, 2007

Mixed media

In collaboration with Lloyd Williams, Warren Carter and Walter Carter

75 x 66 x 84 inches



Young Baldwin Drawings(#1,#9,#10,#6#12,#18), 2004

Ink on paper

11.5 x 16.5 inches each



Harvesting String (Hoop), 2006

Single channel video projection, 20:00 min.

In collaboration with Chelsea Lemon Fetzer

Checklist of Exhibition (continued)



***(The Efflorescence of) Walter*, 2004-06**

Six channel video installation (four projections and two monitors), 13:46 min.

In collaboration with Chelsea Lemon Fetzer

This multi-channel video installation is made up of the following elements:



***Walter and the Hyrax*, 2006**

Video projection

In collaboration with Chelsea Lemon Fetzer



***Broken Hyrax*, 2006**

Video on monitor

In collaboration with Chelsea Lemon Fetzer



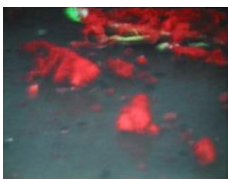
***Walter*, 2006**

Video projection (on roving screen)

84 x 120 inches (10 feet x 10 feet x 10 feet)

Video in collaboration with Chelsea Lemon Fetzer;

Roving screen sculpture in collaboration with Eric Stone and F. Randy deCelle



***Garden Element (Speeds 1,2,4,7,15,20)*, 2003**

Video on mini LCD monitor

In collaboration with Yurika Abe



***Baldwin Animation*, 2004**

Video animation on suspended frosted plexiglass screen

In collaboration with face2face Animation, Inc.



***Celebration*, 2006**

Video projection, 00:26 sec.

All works courtesy of the Artist.