

The Kitchen

For Immediate Release
October 20, 2014

THE KITCHEN PRESENTS “KLAUS LUTZ: SELECTED STORIES,” OCTOBER 30–DECEMBER 20

The Kitchen is pleased to present “**Klaus Lutz: Selected Stories**,” the first U.S. institutional exhibition to highlight the work of the under-recognized, Swiss-born artist and filmmaker **Klaus Lutz**. The exhibition will feature a selection of Lutz’s 16mm film loops, as well as some of his meticulous works on paper and artist books. Shot almost entirely in the artist’s tiny one-bedroom East Village apartment with Lutz performing as his protagonist, the films—using animation, multiple exposures, and often projected onto large, white balloons, creating convex, circular images—depict quasi-mythological tales that, while reminiscent of Georges Méliès, Charlie Chaplin and the 1920s avant-garde, ultimately look to develop new visual sign systems for the future. “Klaus Lutz: Selected Stories” is curated by Matthew Lyons

“Klaus Lutz: Selected Stories” will be on view October 30–December 20 at The Kitchen (512 West 19th Street). Exhibition hours are Tuesday–Friday, 12–6pm and Saturday, 11am–6pm. An opening will take place on Thursday, October 30 from 6pm to 8pm.

The oeuvre of Swiss artist and filmmaker Klaus Lutz (1940–2009) adds up to a densely interlaced universe all of its own. Based on the premise that written language would soon be replaced by entirely visual communication, Lutz created an intricate sign system that he deployed across a whole range of media. Initially, his preferred media were small-format dry-point etchings and copperplate engravings of narrative image sequences, some of them based on the writings of Robert Walser, whose work was of crucial importance to Lutz.

Later, Lutz turned to experimental filmmaking and film performances. By means of multiple exposures, various types of lenses, and self-constructed apparatuses, he created films that combined and over-layered animation, performance, drawings and scenes shot on the streets of New York, where he had been living since 1993. The films relate the adventures of one man, Lutz himself, in a quixotic universe between dream and reality, made up of signs, shapes, everyday objects, and footage of the outside world. Some of his films were incorporated in installations and performances. Lutz was a classic artist's artist who had close band of ardent followers in Europe and the US, yet his unique works were never available to a broad audience.

Funding Credits

Klaus Lutz: Selected Stories is made possible with support from The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia, and in part by public funds from New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. In-kind support provided by Paula Cooper Gallery.

About The Kitchen

The Kitchen is one of New York City’s most forward-looking nonprofit spaces, showing innovative work by emerging and established artists across disciplines. Our programs range from dance, music, performance, and theater to video, film, and art, in addition to literary events, artists' talks, and lecture series. Since its inception in

1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country, and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

Facebook: facebook.com/TheKitchenNYC

Twitter: twitter.com/TheKitchen_NYC

**Press contact: please contact Blake Zidell or John Wyszniwski at
Blake Zidell & Associates, 718.643.9052, blake@blakezidell.com or ron@blakezidell.com.**