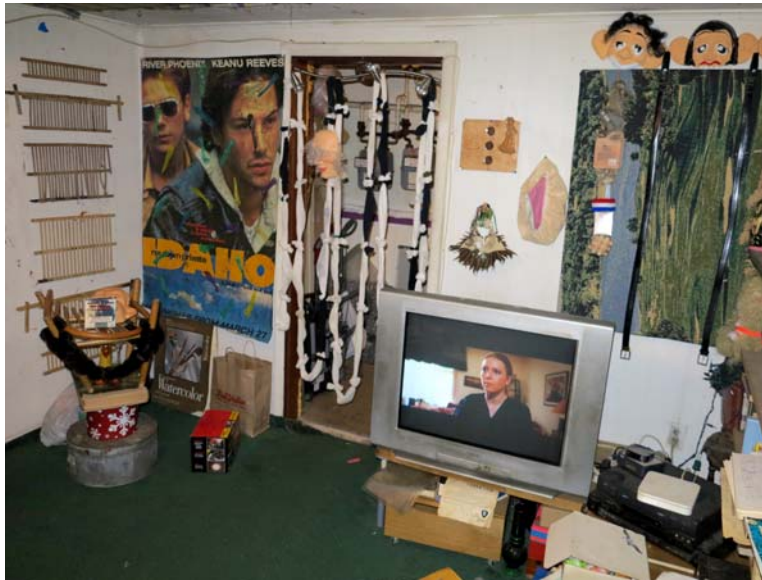


Louis B. James

Michael Mahalchick
Last Arrangements



March 16 – April 26, 2014
Opening Sunday March 16, 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Who do you think you are? Who do you think I am? Do you think I am who you think you are? An amalgamation of the fleeting, the contingent, the relative, the necessary, the impossible, the eternal...

The precarious instability of our existence leads to inevitable consequences that we only come to understand through time and perspective. It is an audience-centered engagement that oscillates wildly between believing and knowing, never resting, ever changing, a starting place, a finish line. Along the way we gather components that combine through chance and will to form an archive of experience on which to base judgments, to determine perspectives. In order to fortify our positions, we desperately build foundations on the shifting sands of time, propping up liberating structures that keep us in the dark and in bondage to belief.

Believing is not knowing. Believing is a mirage, a shimmering reflection confusing the senses, promising safety and relief. It is an idealized picture of you, a softening of the map on the face in the mirror, drawn by the thread of history and pressure of conformity. A perpetual plastic surgery that speaks to the politics of connectivity that threatens to consume our identity in its promiscuous abjection of that which was once considered valuable in pursuit of an unattainable immortality.

Knowing, the burden of the insignificant, is all that and how. Vulgar and disparate and pitiless, it is the seduction of power over strength, of never to forever. It is violently naked in the face of all who do not look away, begging to be seen, never to be forgotten. It threatens to sacrifice us under a crushing hopeless wait. It is a death sentence.

Beauty hides alone in a lair, safe and comfortable, waiting, in its own private idaho.

Louis B. James is located at 143b Orchard St, NY NY 10002. For more information please call 212 533 4670, write info@louisbjames.com, or visit www.louisbjames.com. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday 11:00 -6:00, Sundays 12:00 to 6:00.