



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXHIBITION: *Jen DeNike: Another Circle*

LOCATION: 492 West 128th Street at Amsterdam Ave.

RECEPTION: Saturday, February 27th 1-5PM

ON VIEW: Saturday, February 27-March 13, 2010

HOURS: Fridays & Saturdays only 1-5PM (Dates: 2/27, 3/5, 3/6, 3/12, & 3/13)

PERFORMANCE: There will be a series of intermittent performances organized by Jen DeNike on Sat. Feb. 27th. Invited guest artists include: Hrafnhildur Arnardottir aka Shoplifter, Carlton DeWoody, Rachel Mason.

*Due to the nature of the space, children under 18 will not be permitted to enter even with adult supervision.

Smith-Stewart is pleased to present, ANOTHER CIRCLE, New York-based artist Jen DeNike's second solo exhibition at the gallery. The exhibition will debut a new single channel video, *Another Circle*, 2010. This is the second exhibition in a series of Smith-Stewart roving gallery shows.

Another Circle, 2010 is related to the artist's first ballet performance, *Scrying*, 2010. A non-narrative, three-act ballet, *Scrying* debuted at the Museum of Modern Art in January. *Scrying* is inspired by George Balanchine's choreography, with its emphasis on the "visual spectacle". In DeNike's ballet, six dancers perform a series of repetitive gestures that epitomize the "ballerina" *par excellence*. *Scrying* is a practice of magic or divination that involves seeing visions through physical mediums like water, a mirror, a crystal, or a reflective surface. DeNike employed five life-size mirrors to reflect and refract the ballerinas' movements during the performance. In doing so, DeNike staged her own scrying ritual, conjuring an otherworldly vision of eternal grace and beauty.

Another Circle, 2010 is a continuation of DeNike's investigation of a perfect and iconic form. In the video, a prima ballerina in classical tutu and toe shoes performs what appears to be an infinite pirouette. Like the ballerina that turns endlessly in a child's music box when wound up, DeNike's video explores our innermost fantasy for an enduring perfection and our fetish for the flawless figure *en pointe*.

On opening day, a live ballerina will be performing abstract choreographed movements in reaction to and mirroring DeNike's video installation.

Special thanks to The Janus Property Company who contributed the space.

Jen DeNike was born in Norwalk, Connecticut in 1971 and presently lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. She received her MFA from Bard College in 2002. DeNike's work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at SITE Gallery, Sheffield, Tensta Konsthall, Stockholm, and Kunst-Werke, Berlin. Her work was included in the renowned "Greater New York 2005" exhibition at the P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center in New York. DeNike presented the world premier of her performance ballet, *Scrying*, at MoMA, NY on January 12, 2010. It will also be performed at the Julia Stoschek Collection, Dusseldorf on Apr. 24, 2010.

Smith-Stewart represents Nicole Cherubini, Georganne Deen, Jen DeNike, Kate Gilmore, Brian Lund, David Malek, Ylva Ogland, Adrian Paci and Elif Uras. The gallery is nomadic.

There is no permanent address. For more details on upcoming shows and projects, please contact the gallery at amy@smith-stewart.com, 917/379-7379 or visit the website: www.smith-stewart.com.