



Naked @ 667 Shotwell Street

Rinaldo

California based artists Chris Sollars and Mads Lynnerup do faux boy toy phone porn in their work *We are Waiting* at Suite 106 in New York this month. (Through May 25, 2002, www.suite106.com). The following excerpt from Rubén Gallo's essay about the work puts it all into, some kind of, perspective.

(...) Suddenly, the scene -- and the wait -- is interrupted by what appears to be a commercial for a 900-number: Guy #1 and Guy #2 appear in various sexy poses -- emerging from the shower, lying in bed, playing with their hair -- and stare at the camera as they urge the viewer to dial 1-900-WAITING, "for hot, hairy guys."

So far, so good -- except that the two guys in question are Mads Lynnerup and Chris Sollars, two straight artists from San Francisco. Not that I -- or any other attentive viewer -- had not noticed: despite their tenacity of its homo-aesthetic intent, the entire performance is haunted by the ghosts of heterosexual identity. The two men never touch -- not even a light brush -- and the viewer senses an unconscious awareness of personal space and bodily boundaries that comes uncomfortably close to what queer theorists have termed "homosexual panic." And then, of course, there is the problem of cor-

poral aesthetics: there is something in these two bodies that cries out "straight." (Is it the ponytail? The body hair? The departure from the buffed ideal of a Chelsea clone?) (...)

To approach Sollars aesthetic even more closely, and to get a better view of the California aesthetic from which he comes, visit his Website 667shotwell.com which offers not only his own work but images of works by other artists Sollars knows or follows. Also included are accounts of projects which have taken place or are taking place at his house at 667 Shotwell Street in San Francisco.

Margaret Tedesco's all day performance "the organization of sadness" was a recent installation. Without knowing the details of the performance the statement on the event announcement "please bring something to drink" and the images on the site of glasses of wine brings to mind Tom Marioni's infamous San Francisco "Free Beer" performances.

Along with an image of Lynnerup and Sollars in action the other artists featured on this page are those in the "Collection" section of 667shotwell.com. □

From Bottom / Left, Clockwise:

Brian Storts
Alien Car Crash, 1999
courtesy 667shotwell.com

Chris Sollars & Mads Lynnerup
We are Waiting
video still

Matt Volla
*(Un)nonknot-(Non)unknot-
Unknot-Nonknot*, 2000
courtesy 667shotwell.com

Alison Pebworth
Alive with Pleasure
courtesy 667shotwell.com

Jim Drain
Bart Ticket (detail), 1999
courtesy 667shotwell.com

Elizabeth Demaray
Baseball Rock, 1998-2001
courtesy 667shotwell.com

mapquest map of 667
Shotwell street.