

# bb4

## **The curatorial team: Maurizio Cattelan, Massimiliano Gioni and Ali Subotnick**

Since 2002, the team of Maurizio Cattelan, Massimiliano Gioni and Ali Subotnick has been running The Wrong Gallery, a miniscule exhibition space in Chelsea, New York's gallery district. A no budget, no profit venue, The Wrong Gallery has hosted special projects by a wide variety of artists, including Tomma Abts, Pawel Althamer, Phil Collins, Martin Creed, Sam Durant, Mark Handforth, Cameron Jamie, Paul McCarthy & Jason Rhoades, Elizabeth Peyton, Paola Pivi, Tino Sehgal, Shirana Shahbazi and more. Playing with exhibition formats and distribution tactics, The Wrong Gallery has also promoted small clandestine interventions in public spaces, such as sidewalk graffiti by Lawrence Weiner, bumper stickers by Laura Owens and a public signage project featuring sandwich boards created by ten different artists, curated (and worn) by Jacob Fabricius in downtown Brooklyn's pedestrian shopping district, Fulton Mall. The team also publishes *The Wrong Times*, a newspaper that features interviews with all of the artists presented at The Wrong Gallery.

Cattelan, Gioni and Subotnick also founded and co-edit the systematically inconsistent contemporary art publication series *Charley*, which is supported by the DESTE Foundation in Athens. A do-it-yourself combine, bound to change content and format at each and every appearance, *Charley* digests and processes images, artworks, articles and previously published materials, in order to reshuffle and re-interpret information. In 2003, the third issue of *Charley* came to life in the form of two exhibitions, devoted to forgotten art works from the eighties. The shows, "Bright Lights, Big City" (David Zwirner, New York) and "Yesterday Begins Tomorrow" (DESTE Foundation, Athens) attempted to reflect the ups and downs of taste and fashion, as they influence the recent history of contemporary art.

Since 2004, Cattelan, Gioni and Subotnick have also contributed a regular column entitled "El Topo" to the Italian architect and design magazine *Domus*: yet another parasitic incursion, every month "El Topo" features an artist's self-portrait in words.

## **Maurizio Cattelan**

Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan has been exhibiting for over a decade, often confronting and challenging the rules of the art system with a passive-aggressive attitude. With solo shows in distinguished institutions such as the Museum of Modern Art, New York, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, the MCA, Chicago, and the Musée de l'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, and inclusion in prestigious group exhibitions such as the Venice Biennale, the Whitney Biennial, Münster Skulptur Projekte, the Carnegie International, Manifesta and "Apocalypse", Maurizio Cattelan has emerged as a strong, individual voice in today's art world. His relationship with museums, institutions, and authority figures alike is often incorporated and questioned in his works with sudden gestures of insubordination or humorous attacks. Interested in collaborative modes of production and in the confusion of identities, Maurizio Cattelan has also been experimenting with misinformation and media techniques. Since 1996, he has been editing and publishing *Permanent Food*, a schizophrenic magazine composed of images borrowed from other publications. In 1999, he organized the Sixth Caribbean Biennial, an international exhibition of contemporary art, with no art allowed.

## **Massimiliano Gioni**

Curator and art critic, Massimiliano Gioni is the artistic director of the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi in Milan. He was the co-curator of Manifesta 5 (San Sebastian, Spain, 2004), and he is now a member of the International Board of Manifesta. He was part of the curatorial team of "Monument to Now. New Acquisitions of the Dakis Joannou Collection" (Athens, 2004). In 2003 he curated "The Zone" for the 50th edition of the Venice Biennale. In Milan, since 2003, for the Fondazione Trussardi he has organized various solo shows and public projects by Darren Almond, John Bock, Maurizio Cattelan, Elmgreen & Dragset, and Urs Fischer.

Former US editor of *Flash Art* magazine, Massimiliano Gioni has written widely on contemporary art, published articles in *Parkett*, *Flash Art* and *Carnet*, and contributed to books and publications on many artists, including Alighiero Boetti, Anna Gaskell, Christian Jankowski, Katarzyna Kozyra and Simon Starling.

## **Ali Subotnick**

Ali Subotnick is a New York-based editor, curator and writer. Since her first job as a receptionist for *Artforum*, she has worked in various roles and capacities in the field of contemporary art. She recently organized an exhibition of drawings by emerging artists for the Dakis Joannou collection in Athens, Greece. In addition to her collaborations with Maurizio Cattelan and Massimiliano Gioni on The Wrong Gallery and the contemporary art publication series *Charley*, some of her recent projects include a radio program on WPS1.org and the 2004 MFA Thesis Exhibition for Columbia University's School of the Arts, where she is a visiting critic. Previously she was an editor and manager of special editions for *Parkett* and prior to that she worked in the editorial office of *Art News*. She has edited and collaborated on publications with On Kawara, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Francesco Vezzoli, and the DESTE Foundation, Athens. She has written about art and contemporary culture for *Frieze*, *Parkett*, *Art News* and *Art Review* among other publications.

From July 2005