

PRESS RELEASE

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## David Shrigley

October 12th – November 16<sup>th</sup> 2002

Anton Kern Gallery is proud to present new works by Glasgow-based artist David Shrigley. Opening on October 12<sup>th</sup>, this is his first solo show in New York.



David Shrigley embraces odd, idiosyncratic moments that are particular to the human condition with tremendous wit and oblique humor. Episodes of fear, obsession, insecurity and the moral quandaries of contemporary life emerge throughout the work. His prolific output of drawings, photographs and sculpture share the accumulative effect of a cathartic stream-of-consciousness.

Spindly line drawings, akin to the visual language of comics or illustrations, document a pageant of odd moral predicaments. Scrawled text in the form of questions, confessions or explanations often accompanies the drawings. One example of this coupling finds a man hurdling over a cactus with the caption 'Athlete in Desert'. The faux-naïf veneer of his drawings and texts buffer the gravity of such deviant subject matter.

Painted smiley faces on beach pebbles and a bottle of amber-colored liquid resting on the steps to a garden, labeled "Drink Me" exemplify the sly interactions orchestrated then recorded by the artist in his photographic works. Collectively, his drawings, texts, photos and sculptures convey a range of human hope and affliction by presenting a deft record of the obstacles life presents to everyone.

Shrigley has participated in numerous exhibitions, including solo shows at Camden Arts Centre in London, the Musee d'Art Moderne et Contemporain in Geneva and The UCLA Hammer Museum in Los Angeles. He has also participated in the group show *Gags and Slapstick in Contemporary Art* at CCAC Institute in San Francisco. Last year he had a solo show at Bard College in New York curated by Amada Cruz.

Opening Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2002 from 6-8 pm. The show will run until November 16<sup>th</sup>. Regular gallery hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 am - 6 pm.

For further information, please contact Fernanda Arruda or Michael Clifton at t.212.367.9663, f. 212.3678135 or email akern@jps.net.

November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2002 – January 11th, 2003 – New works by Alessandro Pessoli.