

Parker's Box 193 Grand Street Brooklyn NY 11211
Tel: 718-388 2882 e-mail: parkersbox@hotmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

We are very pleased to announce the opening of an exhibition of work by artists from England, France, Spain, and the United States, entitled:

Drawing Quirks

**Virginie Barré, Jean Bellissen, Simon Faithfull,
Jeff Gabel, Charo Garaigorta, Javier Peñafiel**

Opening Reception, Friday May 18, 6-9 pm

Exhibition dates: May 19 to June 17, 2001

Opening Hours, Friday to Sunday 1 to 7 pm

The artists in this exhibition are from the United States and Europe, and all use drawing in some way as a significant part of their art. In every case it is a means to an end, and relates in different ways to the fact that the passive directness and intimacy of drawing practices are today unavoidably threatened by the invasion of privacy and the aggressive directness with which a continuous plethora of images tends to saturate our contemporary existence.

This inevitable marginalization, implied by the use of *primitive* image-making techniques in a world of mass-produced image overflow, is welcomed as an asset by these artists, who turn it to their advantage through a variety of conscious or unconscious strategies and attitudes.

Jean Bellissen's maps provide a satire of global economy, purporting to be the schemas of a multinational corporation. **Jeff Gabel's** humble drawings also use satire, and mostly deal with absurdity and insignificance in the contemporary world- of individuals and their thoughts and actions, tracts of land whether counties or states, national flags etc. **Charo Garaigorta** makes very long velum drawings that appear to be intricate abstractions, until they emerge as repeated arrangements of pseudo art-nouveau ladies. Her demonstratively anti cyber-technological images are far from reactionary, creating subversive undercurrents from the ostensibly obsolescent. In clear contrast, **Simon Faithfull**, (a founder of the successful UK internet art producer, e-2.org), uses a Palm Pilot to record the urban commonplace in simple drawings. These are subsequently printed onto a variety of surfaces or distributed by daily e-mail subscriptions, as during his recent Whitechapel Art Gallery exhibition in London. **Javier Peñafiel** presents banners featuring an ambiguous anti-macho character described as *Ego Lactante* (the Suckling Ego). Text and drawing style relate this work to recent cartoon culture, in a similar way to **Virginie Barré's** open-ended fiction, presented in cartoon/storyboard style and evoking suspense in the impenetrable world of contemporary youth.

For further information please don't hesitate to contact the gallery at 718 388 2882