

Parker's Box 193 Grand Street Brooklyn NY 11211 718 388 2882

www.parkersbox.com

[PRESS RELEASE]

THE MORNING AFTER THE NIGHT BEFORE

**VIRGINIE BARRÉ, CAROLINE MCCARTHY, BRUNO PEINADO,
MIKE ROGERS, STEFAN SEHLER, JOSHUA STERN**

EXHIBITION DATES: NOVEMBER 26 – DECEMBER 19, 2004

GALLERY HOURS: FRIDAY TO MONDAY 1 TO 7 PM

After the recent election that saw more people voting for the loser than had ever previously voted for a presidential winner, there were more hangovers the day after election day than ever before. This is simply because the population had been more engaged than usual and consequently celebrated or commiserated harder.

On the evening of September 10th, 2001, Berlin painter, Stefan Sehler was adding the final touches to work for his first solo show at Parker's Box. The following morning we stood together on the roof of the gallery building and watched history taking place.

At the opening reception, it felt like beauty was resistance. Since then, if anything, Sehler's paintings have become even more involved in an esthetic of lushness which acts as a point of access, subsequently inviting a dialogue with the spectator about the mechanics of the work of art - about what makes its existence stronger- technically, esthetically, conceptually, spiritually.

The Morning After the Night Before, is a group exhibition of gallery artists whose work will be featured in solo exhibitions in the coming period.

Along with paintings by **Stefan Sehler**, the exhibition will feature Californian artist, **Mike Rogers'** recent photomontage exploration into images of middle America, gleaned from the internet. Rogers' work exploits the new availability of banal images that in the past rarely ventured beyond the pages of private albums. Using the tiniest fraction of available images, Rogers spreads out before the viewer a coherent panorama of the identity of America that feels like knowledge in homeopathic doses. Also using photography, but in a much more personalized way, Brooklyn-based artist, **Joshua Stern's** most recent works place his lonely, signature stick men as drinkers in a bar setting (Williamsburg or the Wild West?) and mark his newest venture into color. French artist, **Virginie Barré's** drawings continue her expression of current youth culture and psychology, as it evolves under the influence of music, films, drugs, videogames and life in and around the cybersphere. Her compatriot, **Bruno Peinado** exploits the imagery of a similar sphere but in a much more exteriorized manner. Peinado's drawings, prints, sculptures etc assimilate and process the by-products of images disgorged by contemporary culture and serves them up in his own specially flavored feast. Finally, the Irish artist, **Caroline McCarthy** further explores her fascination with packaging and the marketing ploys it uses to condition our perception of products- and by extension the world. Among other experiments, she offers greenery from a ready-meal package, the chance to grow in a flowerpot!...

With special thanks to Tim and Nancy Grumbacher