

JANE LOMBARD GALLERY

For Immediate Release

Teppei Kaneuji

Deep Fried Ghost

September 10 – October 17, 2015

New York, August 1, 2015 – Jane Lombard Gallery is pleased to present *Deep Fried Ghost*, Teppei Kaneuji's first solo exhibition in the United States. The exhibition features works from five distinctive series including *White Discharge*; *Muddy Steam from a Mug*; *Teenage Fan Club*; *Ghost in the Liquid Room*; and *Games, Dance, Constructions, (Soft Toys)* as well as new iterations of these projects made specifically for the exhibition. The artist will be present for the opening reception on September 10 from 6-8 pm.

Kyoto based artist Teppei Kaneuji investigates the mass consumption of contemporary culture, sourcing materials from everyday life, found objects and characters from Japanese comics to create sculpture that is at once playful and menacing. In his signature series *White Discharge* (2002-ongoing), Kaneuji takes small, inexpensive objects – plastic containers, balls, cooking utensils, ropes, action figures, etc. – and uses them to create quasi-architectural structures. “White discharge,” or plastic resin, is then repeatedly poured atop the structures, slowly dripping as it pools to the bottom. As the dripping resin slowly hardens upon the objects, it transforms the composite structure into a vaguely familiar yet strange visual experience.

This interplay between object and meaning continues in his series, *Muddy Stream from a Mug* (2004-2009). Inspired by an accidental coffee stain on a piece of paper, Kaneuji uses a mundane mishap as a sculptural tool to create energetic cut-out paper collages and constructions, ranging from amorphous splotches to towers of artificial food. In his series *Teenage Fan Club* (2008-2009), Kaneuji recalls seeing the backs of peoples' heads swaying together at a concert as he reassembles the removable hair of plastic figurines to create hairy monsters and superheroes.

Kaneuji further explores the ideas of representation, meaning, and assemblage in the two other series included in the exhibition. *Ghost in the Liquid Room* (2014) is composed of distorted images of seemingly melted metal printed on wood, creating Dalí-esque sculptural forms. In *Games, Dance, and the Constructions (Soft Toys)* (2014), Kaneuji prints his drawings of various objects – bones, driftwood, toys – on stuffed “soft sculptures” that are packed into a transparent acrylic frame. Evident throughout his work, Teppei celebrates the infinite possibilities discovered in found objects and the importance of “encountering things that seem familiar, but that we do not really understand.”

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Teppei Kaneuji (b. 1978, Japan) earned a graduate degree in sculpture at Kyoto City University of the Arts in 2003. Major solo exhibitions include *Towering Something* at Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, and K11, Shanghai (2013-14); *Ghost in the City Lights* at Eslite Gallery, Beijing (2011); *POST-NOTHING* at Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney (2011); *Recent Works Post Something* at ShugoArts, Tokyo (2010); *Melting City / Empty Forest* at Yokohama Museum of Art (2009); and, *Metamorphosis: Objects Today Vol. 6* at Gallery αM, Tokyo (2009). Major group exhibitions include: *Roppongi Crossing 2013: Out of Doubt* at Mori Art Museum (2013); *Re: Quest—Japanese Contemporary Art Since the 1970s* at Museum of Art, Seoul National University, Seoul (2013); *Sculpture by Other Means* at One and J Gallery, Seoul (2012); Singapore Biennale at National Museum of Singapore, Singapore (2011); *Ways of Worldmaking* at The National Museum of Art, Osaka (2011); *Akatsuka Fujio Manga University Exhibition* at Kyoto International Manga Museum (2011); *Platform 2009 Project by Invited Curators* at KIMUSA, etc., Seoul (2009); *Beautiful New World: Current Japanese Visual Culture* at Beijing and Guangdong (2007). Teppei Kaneuji lives and works in Kyoto, Japan.