



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Mary Reid Kelley with Patrick Kelley, *The Syphilis of Sisyphus*, 2011 (still). HD video, black-and-white, sound; 11 minutes, 2 seconds. Courtesy of the artist; Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects; and Fredericks & Freiser Gallery, New York

HIGH LINE ART PRESENTS

MARY REID KELLEY *WE'RE WALLOWING HERE IN YOUR DISCO TENT*

AN EXHIBITION IN VIDEO FORMAT ON HIGH LINE CHANNEL 14

**SEPTEMBER 1 – NOVEMBER 2, 2016 | DAILY, BEGINNING AT 6:00 PM
14TH STREET PASSAGE, ON THE HIGH LINE AT WEST 14TH STREET**

New York, NY (August 3, 2016) – Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art is pleased to announce *We're Wallowing Here in Your Disco Tent*, a program of five videos by Mary Reid Kelley including *Camel Toe* (2008); *The Thong of Dionysus* (2015); *The Queen's English* (2008); *Sadie, The Saddest Sadist* (2009); and *The Syphilis of Sisyphus* (2011). Exhibited as part of High Line Channel 14, a series of outdoor projections of art videos in the semi-enclosed passageway on the High Line at West 14th Street, this program will be on view daily from Thursday, September 1 through Wednesday, November 2, 2016, from 6:00 PM until the park closes.

Mary Reid Kelley creates videos, photographs, and drawings based on her humorous and poignant renditions of ancient Greek mythology and historical events. Her scripts are densely woven with complex multi-lingual word play, literary and artistic allusions, and lascivious puns that burlesque the master narratives and gender politics of war and myth, giving them a grotesquely comic feminist twist. Produced with Patrick Kelley, Reid Kelley's videos feature costumes, props, and black-and-white aesthetics that pay homage to many visual worlds, including Cubism, early cinema, and cartoons.

In *Camel Toe* (2008), a male aviator bemoans the loss of his lover to her new, more exciting diversion. The bawdy revelry in *The Thong of Dionysus* (2015) follows Dionysus, Ariadne, and the Minotaur on an intoxicated adventure in search of "a raisin to live." In a more somber tone, *The Queen's English* (2008) portrays the monologue of a British nurse on the Great War's Western Front who laments watching a wounded soldier's slow demise. Also set in World War I, this time in London, *Sadie, The Saddest Sadist* (2009) displays the intermingled amorous and vocational lives of women working in factories at the time. Finally, *The Syphilis of Sisyphus* (2011) stars a pregnant bohemian in nineteenth-century Paris who delivers biting criticisms of modernity and its false promises of progress.





“Mary Reid Kelley wields her scripts like swords, recasting historical narratives with nimble and heartfelt humor,” says High Line Art Assistant Curator Melanie Kress. “We are thrilled to be able to share Reid Kelley’s sage approach to history on the High Line, itself a historical artifact and home to myriad ever-changing narratives.”

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Mary Reid Kelley (b. 1979, Greenville, SC) lives and works in Saratoga Springs, NY. Recent solo exhibitions have been presented internationally at venues including Hammer Museum (2015); Neuer Kunstverein Wien (2014); Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston (2013); and The Contemporary Austin in Austin, TX (2013). Reid Kelley’s work has been featured in a number of prominent group exhibitions including *Rose Video 03: Maria Lassnig and Mary Reid Kelley*, Rose Art Museum at Brandeis University, South Waltham, MA (2014); *Through the Eyes of Texas: Masterworks from the Alumni Collections*, Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas, Austin (2013); *Ludicrous!*, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia (2010); and SITE Santa Fe Eighth International Biennial (2010). Reid Kelley has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship (2014); Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Biennial Award (2013); The Shifting Foundation Grant (2012); and the Joseph H. Hazen Rome Prize (2011).

ABOUT HIGH LINE ART

Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art commissions and produces public art projects on and around the High Line. Founded in 2009, High Line Art presents a wide array of artwork including site-specific commissions, exhibitions, performances, video programs, and a series of billboard interventions. Curated by Cecilia Alemani, the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art, and produced by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art invites artists to think of creative ways to engage with the uniqueness of the architecture, history, and design of the High Line and to foster a productive dialogue with the surrounding neighborhood and urban landscape.

Major support for High Line Art comes from Donald R. Mullen, Jr. and The Brown Foundation, Inc. of Houston. Additional funding is provided by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and Dorothy Lichtenstein. High Line Art is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the New York City Council and from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

For further information on High Line Art, please visit art.thehighline.org.

ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE HIGH LINE

Friends of the High Line raises 98% of the High Line’s annual budget. Owned by the City of New York, the High Line is a public park maintained, operated, and programmed by Friends of the High Line, in partnership with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.

SOCIAL MEDIA INFORMATION

@HighLineArtNYC #HighLineArt #MaryReidKelley

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