

OSMOS

ADDRESS

Casey Legler

Everyone Gets a Piece

September 11 – October 17, 2014

Opening September 11, 7-9pm

OSMOS Address

50 E. 1st Street

New York, NY 10003

Tue – Fri 11am – 5pm and by appointment



White Girls Series, 2010
Video Slide Show

Casey Legler was raised both in the United States and in France. She is a phi beta kappa and ada comstock scholar graduate from Smith College (2007). Legler's work has appeared in the Guardian, Vogue, V magazine, Time and CNN. She is currently working on a memoir recounting her girlhood and years as an Olympic athlete.

With this first solo exhibition at OSMOS Address in New York opening September 11, 2014, Legler unveils different narrative works of still photography, video, sound and performance. Each work involves in some way the artist as impersonator and viewer (camera or phone), and the clichéd signatures of social identity (costume or setting) that get embroiled in a personification.

Casey Legler is a perfect contemporary version of the protagonist in Francine Prose's recent novel, *Lovers at the Chameleon Club, Paris 1932*: Lou Villars, the "extraordinary athlete and scandalous cross-dressing lesbian" who finds refuge among the "expats, artists, libertines and parvenues looking to indulge their true selves" (Scott Spencer).

Clearly, Legler makes an issue of identity and her art practice challenges gender norms. But more radically what she calls into question is the assumption that "personae" (Paglia) alone challenge those norms. Its not a simple equation of the work being about "x gender" or "y sexuality" but rather how -- the "how" becomes the most important part.

In 2013 Legler received much attention for inserting herself into the system of fashion marketing by being the first woman to be represented and employed with Ford exclusively as a male model.

While Legler's year-long methodical commitment fulfilled a functional role in the fashion industry, it was at the same time part of her on-going art practice. Undoubtedly deeply personal, Legler's work is also political.

OSMOS Address is a project space for art gatherings, publications, and exhibitions in the East Village storefront that was once a saloon frequented by Emma Goldman and other radicals. OSMOS has established itself as an international platform for the exchange of ideas and images.

For more information, please contact

Cay Sophie Rabinowitz

osmos.address@gmail.com

+1 917 859 7104