

ubu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Gun: Icon of Twentieth Century Art

January 27 – March 9, 1996

The Gun: Icon of Twentieth Century Art will open at **Ubu Gallery** on January 27th and run through March 9, 1996. The exhibition will include objects, collages, assemblages, paintings, drawing, prints and photographs by a number of artists, including Jonathan Borofsky, Al Hansen, Rebecca Horn, Man Ray, Robert Mapplethorpe, Marcel Marien, Yoko Ono, Tom Otterness, Donald Sultan and Andy Warhol.

The gun is charged with paradoxical associations. For some it may arouse fear and images of violence. Others may view it as a harbor of safety and source of protection. As an object divorced from its functionality, its advanced design, ergonomic form and heft lend it sculptural and graphic significance. Yet its pervasive presence in action films and pop culture trivializes its potency. Perhaps it is just this ambiguity that has attracted a wide range of artist to incorporate gun imagery into their work.

Notable works included in the exhibition are a 1959 assemblage by Nikki de St. Phalle, a 1963 banner by Roy Lichtenstein, a 1961 collage by the affichiste Jacques Villeglé, a 1927 photograph by Berenice Abbott of Jean Cocteau aiming a pistol at the camera, and a 1972 accumulation by Arman. Tom Sachs, one of the participating contemporary artists, will shoot the invitation for the exhibition, modeled on a standardized target, with a Glock 9mm handgun.

During the run of the exhibition, Ubu Gallery will accept contributions for the benefit of the coalition to stop Gun Violence and New Yorkers Against Gun Violence.