

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

76 GRAND STREET NEW YORK NY 10013



## WANG DU *DÉFILÉ*

**November 11 - December 23, 2000**

A life-size sculpture of a Chinese military parade will fill Deitch Project's Grand Street gallery from November 11<sup>th</sup> through December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Comprised of armed soldiers, imposing commanders, tanks, aircraft, missiles and a pro democracy demonstrator with a slingshot, the work portrays a frightening, but simultaneously comic version of Chinese military power. The artist has installed the work on the kind of platform that is normally used by high fashion runway models. The title *Défilé* has a double meaning that deliberately confuses a fashion show with a military parade.

Wang Du was born in Wuhan, China in 1956. Already acclaimed as an art student as one of the most talented figurative sculptors in China, the artist used his reputation to challenge the authorities with provocative work. He was sent to prison and was only released through the intervention of the French government. He subsequently received political asylum in France, where he currently resides.

Wang Du has developed a unique figurative style drawing on Chinese Social Realist propaganda, traditional Chinese ceramic sculpture, and American Pop. His imagery is all scavenged from news magazine photographs and advertising. The images in *Défilé* are mostly taken from Chinese military propaganda magazines. The artist appreciates the irony of making his debut exhibition in New York a statement of Chinese military might.

The artist is best known in the West for *Marché aux Puces*, his sculptural collage of sex, power and money at the 1999 Venice Biennale. This is his first exhibition in the United States.

**GALLERY HOURS ARE TUESDAY – SATURDAY, 12 – 6 PM  
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT INGRID LAI  
AT 343-7300.**