

**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

76 GRAND STREET NEW YORK NY 10013



ORIGINS OF HAROLD

JT LeRoy

NOVEMBER 13 - DECEMBER 18, 2004

26 WOOSTER STREET

Opening Reception 6 - 8 PM

Reading and Live Performance 8 PM, 18 Wooster Street

**Hernan Bas
Matt Greene
Jane Gilday
Danny Hobart
Cherry Hood**

**Violet Hopkins
Nick Lowe
Paul P.
Lou Reed**

Deitch Projects and Art Production Fund are pleased to present an exhibition, reading and live performance inspired by literary maverick JT Leroy, upon the release of his first illustrated novella, *Harold's End*.

JT Leroy, the author of international bestsellers *Sarah* and *The Heart is Deceitful Above All Things*, has been acclaimed as one of the most compelling and original writers of his generation. His writing has earned him a passionate following among fans and artists of all disciplines, who identify with his vivid descriptions of a world where fantasy and reality are interchangeable, and where the results are at once exquisite and utterly devastating.

"JT's stories are like stitches, like exit wounds, dispatches, dispositions. He is the brilliant, gifted

and profound fly on the wall. You'll need handkerchiefs and novocaine to get you through this." – Tom Waits, Singer/Songwriter

JT Leroy's vibrant and continuous rapport with other artists is the inspiration for this exhibition performance project. Deitch projects, in keeping with its cross disciplinary program, is interested in exploring the relationship between contemporary art and one of the prominent young writers closest to new trends in visual arts.

For the exhibition, JT Leroy suggested the work of Cherry Hood, an Australian artist he met online, whose watercolors now illustrate his new book, and Jane Gilday, who was among the first to express

admiration for his work, and one of the original members of his online community.

An additional group of artists with whom JT Leroy found a common vision and who are equally enthusiastic about JT's work, were selected by the gallery and Art Production Fund in dialogue with JT Leroy. These artists include Hernan Bas, Matt Greene, Danny Hobart, Violet Hopkins, Nick Lowe, Tedd Mineo, Paul P. and Lou Reed. In addition, the author himself was encouraged to make art during his years of rehabilitation. Two of his recent "Shadow Boxes" are included in the exhibition.

Following the opening reception at 26 Wooster Street from 6-8 PM, there will be a live performance by JT Leroy's band, Thistle, which has recently released its first EP. I-D Magazine describes Thistle as "sliding like a jazzed up piston amongst the dirty garage rock bands of the moment...odd yes, but brilliant definitely." Thistle will be followed by a reading from *Harold's End* by some of JT Leroy's friends and artistic inspirations including Asia Argento, Tatum O'Neil, Shirley Manson, and Lou Reed.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT JASMINE LEVETT AT
212 343 7300 WWW.DEITCH.COM**