

**FOR  
IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**

76 GRAND STREET NEW YORK NY 10013



**LEE BUL  
MONSTERS**

**April 24 – June 5, 2004  
18 Wooster Street**

Deitch Projects is pleased to present *Monsters*, an exhibition of new sculptures and related paintings and drawings by Lee Bul, whose extraordinary body of work has been presented to growing acclaim in important international venues over the past decade.

Synthesizing elements from art history, critical theory, science, and the popular imagination, Lee's work conflates traditional figurations of the human form with fantasies revolving around the post-human trope of the cyborg. Developing, in part, out of the provocative performances that propelled her to the forefront of the artistic vanguard in her native Korea in the late 1980s, Lee's sculptural production is both intellectually engaging and powerfully sensuous in its formal inventiveness. Her *Monsters* appear as visions of beautiful failure, countering our faith in perfectibility, and pushing the fantasy of the cyborg, in the words of the artist, "to the point of convulsion, a shattering that gives rise to extravagant, auto-productive forms."

Despite its distinctly contemporary, even high-tech, appearance, Lee's work is deliberately and painstakingly manual in its method of production, combining traditional sculptural techniques with an embrace of the latest industrial materials. Her most recent sculptural work, alluding to genetic or atomic structures and suspended between the mechanical and the biomorphic, is fashioned from hundreds of crystal particles threaded by hand on an armature that is a delicate web of nickel-chromium wire. For the present exhibition, Lee Bul will also unveil new paintings and drawings, intricate renderings of phantasmic morphologies issuing from an aesthetic sensibility informed equally by surrealism, science fiction, and the culture of animation.

**CONTINUED ON REVERSE**

Lee Bul's work is known to the New York art audience from her solo exhibition at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, *Lee Bul: Live Forever*, in 2002, which featured three fully functional karaoke pods that were a cross between futuristic racing cars and cryogenic chambers. Her work was also included in the second Hugo Boss Prize exhibition at the Guggenheim Museum in 1998. At the 48th Venice Biennale in 1999, she represented Korea and was also included in the international exhibition curated by Harald Szeemann. Her work has been featured in a number of influential exhibitions, such as *01.01.01: Art in Technological Times*, at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 2001; and *Let's Entertain* at the Walker Art Center and the Centre Pompidou, 2000. Currently, her work is included in the exhibition of artists shortlisted for the Artes Mundi Prize, a new international visual arts prize based in Cardiff, Wales. In November of this year, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, will mount a major survey of her work.

**GALLERY HOURS 12-6, TUESDAY – SATURDAY  
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT  
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