

**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**



**MADONNA
STEVEN KLEIN
X-STaTIC PRo=CeSS
March 28 – May 3, 2003
18 Wooster Street**

Deitch Projects is pleased to present one of the year's most anticipated exhibitions, X-STaTIC PRo=CeSS, a collaboration between Madonna and Steven Klein. The work explores a new space between still and moving images. Three video works and two photographic animations, each with a sound component, are projected into the suspended hollow volumes of LOT/EK's exhibition design. Two of the sound compositions incorporate vocals by Madonna.

Madonna presents herself as "a performer in a landscape where she creates and brings her ideas to life or death." Steven Klein's intention was to work with Madonna as a performance artist, creating a situation where she could respond directly to the camera without constraint. The project is not about photography of celebrity, but about the person and the passions beneath the surface. Klein sees Madonna as a messenger, asking people to wake up and confront the dehumanizing forces in the contemporary world.

Rather than the packaged glamour that one might expect from the collaboration of a pop star and a top fashion photographer, the work is raw and menacing. The spirit is apocalyptic. Madonna and Steven Klein enter into a subconscious realm

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of primitive fears and desires. The work has a religious passion and a sexual charge. The theatricality increases the intensity of the emotions.

Klein has extended the concentrated power of the still photograph into a moving image. Fusing photography, video and animation, he has expanded the medium to capture Madonna's energized performance. In developing their exhibition design, the architects Ada Tolla and Giuseppe Lignano of LOT/EK, viewed Madonna and Klein's work as "contemporary Caravaggio paintings," suspended on the edge between still and moving image. They want the experience of the work to be evocative of wandering through an Italian baroque church, where one is captivated by the large magically lit paintings that fill the walls of the side chapels.

Steven Klein is one of the most prominent photographers of his generation. He is a regular contributor to Vogue, Vogue Italia, and W. His photographs of the writer J.T. Leroy were exhibited at Deitch Projects in February of 2002.

Madonna's new album, *American Life*, will be released in April.

Architects Ada Tolla and Giuseppe Lignano of LOT/EK designed the exhibition. Their work blurs the boundaries between art, architecture, and entertainment. LOT/EK's TV Tank was presented at Deitch Projects in 1998.

Deitch Projects has been an active participant in the new convergence of art, music, performance, fashion and design.

The April issue of W features a 44-page portfolio of Madonna and Steven Klein's photographic collaboration.

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