

Art in Review

Wynne Greenwood and K8 Hardy

Reena Spaulings Fine Art
371 Grand Street, Lower East Side
Through June 5

Wynne Greenwood is best known as the one-person rock trio called Tracy and the Plastics. K8 Hardy is a founder of the queer feminist art collective LTRR. Like many of the more interesting young artists today, they identify themselves with no particular medium. Film, photography, music, performance, installation and writing are all just part of what they do.

For this show, they have collaborated on a video called "New Report" in which they play anchors and roving correspondents for WKRH, a fictional television news channel "broadcasting" from various places where the artists stopped on a recent cross-country trip. As the reporters Henry Stein-Acker-Hill (Ms. Greenwood) and Henry Iragary (Ms. Hardy), they wear identical, Black-Panthers-meet-outlaw-Patty Hearst outfits of turtlenecks and berets. They keep news personal, which means informal, comical and political.

Between volleys of adrenalin-pumping music they do an in-depth interview with a friend named Lisa on how she deals with feelings of anxiety and powerlessness resulting in insomnia (answer: Ambien, Somnux, television and a nightcap of NyQuil). Lying clothed in a tub of water and speaking through a microphone that appears to be growing a tumor, Ms. Greenwood reports on the regenerative effects of a warm bath.

In addition, the news team brings us live coverage of a bra-burning event, and delivers a solemn apology for an error made in a previous broadcast, without specifying what the error was. As a bonus, the show includes a second video, in which the artists enact domestic dramas by lip-synching soundtracks of daytime television shows.

With glitch-prone good humor, "New Report" touches on childhood make-believe, 1960's activism, 1970's feminism, queer politics, the cult of narcissism and the almost-beyond-satire absurdities of the news machine. It also tacitly advocates the idea of being who you are and what you are "live," in public, 24/7. "Pregnant w/Information" is WKRH's promotional logo, and the advertising is not false. **HOLLAND COTTER**