

KLARA LIDEN
Elda för kråkorna

February 3 – March 9, 2008

Reena Spaulings presents *Elda för kråkorna* by Klara Liden. For her third exhibition at the gallery, Liden works with the pre-existing materials and structure of this East Broadway site, building out the gallery's sheetrock walls and plywood floor, and multiplying its functional right angles until she arrives at another kind of space. Most of the gallery is made to disappear and is given over to local pigeons, which are unseen but can sometimes be heard moving about in the gallery's deleted area. *Elda för kråkorna* is a common saying in Swedish, meaning "heating the crows" – or the wasting of human energy and resources.

As with her previous projects and exhibitions, Liden proposes an architecture of piracy and détournement, a deviation of existing materials and spaces from their normal functions and uses. Rebuilding by unbuilding, the artist prefers the constraint of what is already at hand, re-making everyday space on the spot. Her material interventions – frequently accompanied by performative actions – are also a means of de-programming everyday behavior and experience. Ideas of inhabitation are never far from a politics of appropriation and free use.

Also on view are Liden's blanked-out "poster paintings," produced by adding one more layer of un-printed paper to build-ups of advertising posters taken from the streets of Copenhagen.

Recent Klara Liden exhibitions include *Unheimlich Maneuver* at the Moderna Museet in Stockholm, 2007, and a presentation of her video work at the Hayward Gallery in London, 2007. Previous exhibitions at Reena Spaulings were *Doctor 3000*, 2004, and *Economy Class*, 2006. A new Liden installation is currently on view at MD 72 in Berlin.

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