

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PLATO'S CAVE

An EIDIA HOUSE project Presenting Gregory Sholette
October 2, 2010 to October 29, 2010

Reception Friday, October 8, 2010, 7 - 9 pm

EIDIA HOUSE 14 Dunham Place, Basement Left (street level doors) Williamsburg
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<http://www.eidia.com/>

By appointment, 1-6pm Wednesday – Saturday

Eidia House announces a new exhibition initiative for 2009-2012, PLATO'S CAVE. Invited artists create an installation and an accompanying edition for the PLATO'S CAVE underground space at EIDIA House Studio. The sixth artist in the series, Gregory Sholette, creates an in situ installation: *Mole Light: God is truth and light his shadow*.

Under a bright, hot August sun ultra-nationalist telegogue Glenn Beck paces the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. His amplified voice booms to the enraptured crowd about the necessity of collectively turning back to god. "For too long, this country has wandered in darkness." Beck adds that the "scars" of the past must be forgotten if we hope to restore the honor of the country. I am reminded of the banal, bureaucratic character Marcello Cleric who, in Bertolucci's 1970 film *The Conformist (Il conformist)*, dutifully assassinates his former philosophy professor in an attempt to establish himself within the conventions of 1930s fascist Italy. In a key scene Cleric visits the office of Professor Quadric who is now exiled in Paris and an outspoken anti-fascist. Recalling the professor's powerful lecture about Plato's allegory of the cave the assassin comments: "Do you remember when you entered the lecture hall they had to close the shutters? In all these years do you know what stays in my memory? Your voice."

Cleric, Beck, and by extension the radical *conformists* of the Tea Party may seek to assassinate history by re-interpreting the archive. Nonetheless, the multifarious surplus of memory now spilling defiantly from its crypt is irrepressible. The installation *Mole Light* consists of an "inside-out" model of Plato's cave made out of fluorescent light fixtures, cardboard, and rubber, as well as a series of c-print scroll "drawings" in which Plato, Adorn, Deleuze, the painter Courbet, and the Disney dwarf Grumpy pontificate and snarl about our present crisis as they wander shadowed within the caverns of "god's light". But it is Karl Marx who gets the final word. Speaking of the *longue durée* of history from below in which real change is gradually realized the worldly philosopher exclaims: "Well burrowed, old mole!"

Sholette's Platos' Cave artist edition; "*Mole Light: God is truth and light his shadow*", 4 1/4" x 36" C print unlimited, unsigned, in bamboo sleeve, \$30.00.

"Sholette uses the materials of model building to create a faux lexicon of actual forms that refer to this redemptive impulse to create and hold onto cultural knowledge."
Jeffrey Skoller

Gregory Sholette is a New York-based artist, writer, and founding member of *REPOhistory* (1989-2000) and *Political Art Documentation/Distribution* (PAD/D: 1980-1988). His recent installations include "The Imaginary Archive" at Enjoy Public Art Gallery, Wellington New Zealand (June - July 2010). Recent publications include *Dark Matter: Art and Politics in an Age of Enterprise Culture* (Pluto Press, Nov. 2010) <http://www.plutobooks.com/display.asp?K=9780745327532&>; *Collectivism After Modernism: The Art of Social Imagination after 1945*, with Blake Stimson (University of Minnesota, 2007), *The Interventionists: A Users Manual for the Creative Disruption of Everyday Life*, with Nat Thompson (MassMoCA/MIT Press, 2004, 2006, 2008), and a special 2008 issue of *Third Text* co-edited with theorist Gene Ray on the theme *Whither Tactical Media*. Sholette is an Assistant Professor of Sculpture at Queens College: City University of New York (CUNY), a visiting faculty member of the Department of Visual and Environmental Studies, Harvard University (Spring 2011), and he teaches an annual seminar in theory and social practice for the CCC post-graduate research program at Geneva University of Art and Design. <http://gregorysholette.com>
<http://darkmatterarchives.net>

Directions EIDIA House Plato's Cave 14 Dunham Place, Basement Left (street level doors) Williamsburg Brooklyn, NY 11211
14 Dunham Place is only 1 block long, and located at the base of the Williamsburg Bridge, 1/2 block from Kent Ave. between Broadway and South 6th Street. (4 blocks west from Peter Luger restaurant on Broadway.) Trains: the L train, first stop from Manhattan in Brooklyn at Bedford stop, walk (about 15 minutes) toward Williamsburg Bridge.
The J & M trains: first stop from Manhattan over Williamsburg Bridge, Marcy stop, walk west down Broadway toward the East River.
Bus: B62 drops you at Dregs & Broadway walk to river & Q59 drops you at Wythe and Williamsburg Bridge, (see: www.mta.info/nyct/maps/busbkln.pdf)

To visit the Plato's Cave installation, Wednesday through Saturday, 1 to 6 pm by appointment please, contact Melissa Wolf, 646 945 3830, or email to eidiahouse@earthlink.net.