

CLAIRE OLIVER

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Norbert Brunner

Fuck Luck

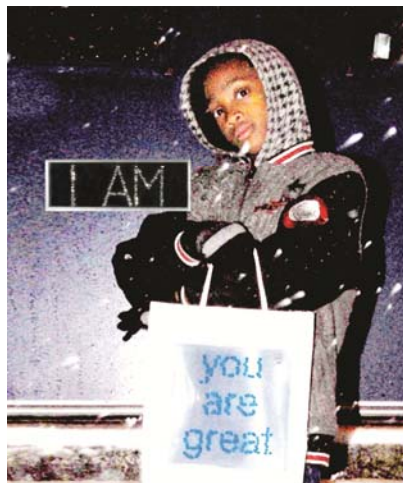
March 11 - April 10, 2010

Opening Reception with the artist:
Thursday, March 11, 6 - 8 pm

Austrian Norbert Brunner's inaugural American exhibition, *Fuck Luck*, uses the gallery as a space for reflection, an approach to self actualization. The artist's 80 inch tall crystal embedded mirrors are installed on opposite walls from his iconic photo-portraits in the same scale. Brunner's mirror objects reflect not only the viewer in the space, but superimpose messages across all in their path, insisting we become an interactive part of the installation. The artist forces the viewer squarely into the center of the work itself, thus asking that he formulate his own interpretation of reality.



A Swarovski crystal mirror states emphatically "You Are A Revolutionary"; its reflection includes a picture of a hip-hop street vendor who holds another crystal embedded mirror which states "I Am Ready". Brunner's digitally manipulated photographs seem to be breaking up pixel by pixel; they call into question our interpretation of a "portrait". Neither a mirror nor a photograph can capture what is reality; we see only an interpretation of that which is captured in the confines of glass. Brunner's crystal messages are only fully visible when the viewer is standing directly in front of the object, confronting the words head on. From the side view, the crystals sparkle and shimmer and the words fall away. A mirror is not an exact reflection of reality, but a distorted conveyance which readily offers back to the viewer an interface with his own preconceived prejudices, strengths, hopes and experiences.



I Am (detail)
C-type print, acrylic mirror, Swarovski crystal
78 x 33 x 1 inches

Brunner encourages confrontation in a positive way; he wants the viewer to come away from the work empowered and energized. Using few but compelling words, *Fuck Luck's* texts reflect possibilities by creating a space where the viewer's own reflection becomes part of the artwork he stands in front of. By adopting a philosophical sense of humor, the artist resists outside pressures and transcends the prevailing environment rather than "coping" with it.

Brunner has public projects Kobe, Japan; Vienna, Austria; Edmonton, Canada and Birmingham, UK. His work has been exhibited throughout the world including Beijing, China; Sydney, Australia; London, UK; Moscow, Russia; Berlin, Germany and Paris, France.

For more information:

www.ClaireOliver.com | Tel: 212.929.5949

In cooperation with B-win, Austria

Public transportation to the gallery

Take C or E train to W. 23 St., walk west to 10 Ave., then walk 3 blocks North to 26th street & 1/4 block west **OR** Take any north/south local train including C, E, 1, 9, F, V, N, R, W or 6 to the W. 23 St. stop, & take the M23 bus west to 10th Ave. then walk 3 blocks North to 26th street & 1/4 block west **OR** The M11 bus stops on 10th Ave. between W. 25th & W. 26th Streets.