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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Information

Steven Speliotis, Gallery Owner

Phone: (212) 353-8413 Email: speliotisphoto@yahoo.com

Man. Toy.

A photographic expression of Still Life featuring the Dildo

Opening Reception: Thurs., September 10, 6-10pm



Abigail Ekue-Smith

The Tourist

metallic print; 11x14 inches

NEW YORK – On Thursday, September 10, 2009, The Body Archive Gallery presents the collection, *Man. Toy.*, a photo series by Abigail Ekue-Smith featuring the dildo as Man and as Art. The Opening Reception will be held from 6 - 10pm. Admission is free and it is open to the public.

About the Exhibition:

Primarily hidden away in nightstand drawers, the dildo conjures thoughts of sex, masturbation or porn stars. In *Man. Toy.*, the dildo is captured in non-sexual situations--it becomes the representation of man, and at times, sculpture. The series consists of approximately thirty photos featuring two designs of the dildo. Although the lifelike design gives viewers a sense of eerie familiarity, it challenges the viewer to look at it as an inanimate object unrelated to the male body. The way a child turns a shoe into a car, the dildo is photographed in other images as it was intended, as a toy.

“Where you’d expect to find man, you can find a dildo. But you also never know where you’ll find one and how ‘normal’ such placement can be.” Many of the images evoke the feel of home movies or vacation photos. The perspective used in many of the photos draws the viewer in and makes the dildo appear larger than life. The words; “meat”, “pipe”, “beat”, “hung” all come to mind when viewing the photographs which range from humorous to pretty to thought-provoking and horrifying.

The Body Archive Gallery (#9 Ninth Avenue bet W 13th and Little W 12th) is located in the heart of the Meatpacking District. The photo exhibition will run for six days until the Closing Reception on Tuesday, September 15. Each event allows guests the opportunity to meet Abigail Ekue-Smith and purchase prints.

Goodie bags will be provided by Babeland® at both parties on a first come, first-served basis.

To view the exhibit outside of the reception dates contact: 212-353-8413 / 917-282-5086 or email speliotisphoto@yahoo.com

About the Artist:

Abigail Ekue-Smith is a published writer specializing in the body sciences, personal essays and food writing. A collection of her short erotic fiction is also in the works. This past May and June she was curator of the erotic showcase, UrbanErotika, with events planned for the future.

**The Body Archive Gallery
#9 Ninth Avenue
New York, NY 10014**

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