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on the wall

TYPE A

Target

September 15 – December 29, 2012

Reception for the artists

Saturday, September 15, 4-7pm



Type A, *Target (Red, White & Blue)*, 2012
One red, one white, one blue neon, 36 x 23 in each

For their first exhibition in Chicago, Type A will exhibit a sculptural installation in neon, recently featured in their solo show at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Denver earlier this year.

“Created in New York City in the 1960’s, “The Thug,” aka Advanced Silhouette SP-83a, aka B-60, became the standard paper target utilized by the New York Police Department for target practice. It was soon adopted by other cities and gun enthusiasts. Today, it is the official target of the United States Department of Homeland Security. “The Thug” is meant to symbolize an actual, physical threat that must be met with deadly force. Not a circular target or anonymous silhouette, the hunched corpulent figure aims a gun right at you.

Security devices in the urban environment are so prevalent as to almost disappear from the public’s notice. Objects which are designed to offer a layer of reassurance in an atmosphere of fear become part of the landscape. Likewise, images of “the enemy” have become woven into every aspect of the media to a degree that begins to drain them of any sense of threat. Target represents this unspoken transformation from the utilitarian to the banal. Like an earlier work Barrier, aestheticizing functional objects can be not only absurd, but critical of social indifference. Target brings an image from police training into the living room and makes the archetypal image of the enemy part of everyday life using neon, the medium of the corner store, the neighborhood movie theater, the local bar.”

– excerpt from Type A artist statement 2012

Type A is the collaboration between NY-based artists Adam Ames (American, born 1969) and Andrew Bordwin (American, born 1964) established in 1998. Using a variety of media, Type A explores the ways men compete, challenge, and play, and the resulting social and psychological imbalance. In addition to the MCA Denver, Type A has had solo shows at The Aldrich Contemporary Museum, DeCordova Sculpture Park + Museum, The List Visual Arts Center, Addison Gallery of American Art, and the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. A major commissioned sculpture, Team Building (Align), is permanently installed at the Indianapolis Museum of Art 100 Acres: The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park.



Special thanks to The Commission of Wicker Park / Bucktown (SSA #33) for their support of the on the wall series.

For more information, please contact the gallery.

moniquemeloche

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