

Chicago artist Doug Ischar makes new installation for MIT

Public reception on Friday, March 5, from 5 to 7 pm.

The Chicago-based artist Doug Ischar has created a new installation for the List Visual Arts Center. *Orderly* will be on view in the List Center's Bakalar Gallery from March 6 through April 17. The artist will be present at a public reception on Friday, March 5 from 5 to 7 pm. Ischar explores our cultural mythology to unearth and examine the stereotypes and presumptions embedded within our systems of communication, especially as they relate to behavior among men. As an openly gay artist dealing with highly charged social and political issues, Ischar challenges his audience to examine their own attitudes and beliefs in relation to culturally-sanctioned myths and assumptions.

Trained as a documentary photographer, Ischar has recently made complex installations incorporating a wide range of visual and textual materials including rephotographed illustrations and photographs from vintage magazines and textbooks, video and 8mm filmloops, and text from a wide range of sources. Ischar's new installation for the List Visual Arts Center deals in part with our country's cultural and political climate as it relates to one of today's most hotly contested issues -- the exclusion of gay men and lesbians from the U.S. Armed Forces. Exhibition curator Ron Platt states, "In *Orderly* Doug Ischar forcefully combines pointed topical commentary with cryptic and poetic visuals in a highly individual presentation. *Orderly* is formally playful and darkly intimate; a quirky and engaging look at American cultural politics."

Doug Ischar will discuss his work during an **informal gallery talk on Saturday, March 6 at 3 pm**. In conjunction with *Doug Ischar: Orderly*, the List Visual Arts Center has published a 47 page catalogue including text and photographs related to the exhibition, as well as essays by Ron Platt and MIT Professor of Literature David Halperin. This publication is available at our gallery desk or by mail.

The List Visual Arts Center is located at 20 Ames Street in Cambridge, a short walk from the Kendall Square Red Line T Station. Parking is available at the corner of Main and Ames Streets. All List Center exhibitions and related events are free and open to the public. Hours are Monday-Friday, 12-6; Saturday & Sunday, 1-5. For more information call (617) 253-4400.