

Strange Songs of Trust and Treachery

Laura Lamb

Opening: Friday 5 April, 7-10 pm

Exhibition Dates: Friday 5 April to Saturday 4 May, 2013



grunt gallery is pleased to exhibit *Strange Songs of Trust and Treachery* by Vancouver-based artist, Laura Lamb. The exhibition features several installations that reveal the curious fictional world that the artist refers to as, Lamb's Performing Objects.

The artist describes Lamb's Performing Objects as "An umbrella project including videos, installation, drawings and texts, in which all parts work together as a collage. Each fragment informs the others to evoke a fictive world of wandering performers, some human, some almost human, who through song, story and circus ravel and unravel 20th century cultural mythologies.

The concept of *Strange Songs of Trust and Treachery* grew from a set of song lyrics I wrote for the character Lotte Obratsov. Lotte first appeared in a set of small mixed media figures, which were in turn based on a set of drawings."

Russian lacquerware, rusty metal household objects and clockwork mechanisms perform in *Bits and Tatters*, the first installment of a video trilogy. Accompanying this video is a song that Lamb wrote and produced with composer and singer, Beverly Dobrinsky.

"My work investigates the gaps and disjunctions between the frailty and clumsiness of performing objects (for example puppets, toys or masks) and their power as producers of complex and compelling narrative," says Lamb. "It's in these gaps where the comedic and transcendent power of objects is able to emerge."

The opening reception for *Strange Songs of Trust and Treachery* will be held at grunt gallery on Friday April 5, 2013 from 7-10 pm. An essay written by Anakana Schofield will be made available at grunt. The exhibition will run from April 5 – May 4, 2013.
<http://lauralamb.ca/>



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