



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Mika Rottenberg, *Bowls Balls Souls Holes*, 2014. Video, color, sound; 27 minutes, 54 seconds. Courtesy of Andrea Rosen Gallery.

HIGH LINE ART PRESENTS

MIKA ROTTENBERG *BOWLS BALLS SOULS HOLES*

SCREENING ON HIGH LINE CHANNEL 14

**JANUARY 7 – MARCH 9, 2016, DAILY BEGINNING AT 5:00 PM
14th STREET PASSAGE, ON THE HIGH LINE AT WEST 14TH STREET**

New York, NY (December 17, 2015) – Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art is pleased to announce the screening of Mika Rottenberg’s video *Bowls Balls Souls Holes* (2014). First exhibited concurrently at The Rose Art Museum in Massachusetts and Andrea Rosen Gallery in New York, *Bowls Balls Souls Holes* continues Rottenberg’s extensive, wildly creative video art practice. Shown on High Line Channel 14, a series of outdoor projections of art videos in the semi-enclosed passageway on the High Line at West 14th Street, this program will be on view daily from Thursday, January 7 through Wednesday, March 9, 2016, from 5:00 PM until the park closes at 7:00 PM.

Mika Rottenberg concocts eminently imaginative videos and installations, from which new, strange worlds – only slightly askew from our own – are born. Her videos are often initially presented within custom-built installations that mirror the sets, props, and characters from within the videos themselves, extending the reality of the moving images beyond the screen. Starring a variety of people who independently market and perform their unique physical qualities – for example, Heather Foster, a champion bodybuilder; Queen Raqui, a “squasher” and activist within the plus-size community; and Tall Kat, a six-foot-nine woman from Arizona – Rottenberg’s videos compose a fanciful factory of characters who manipulate materials in an absurdist parallel to the Fordist assembly line. Referencing the inventive and compelling storytelling of the infomercials that have inspired her, Rottenberg explains, “it’s magic – finding little solutions for things that were not necessarily a problem.”

Presented on High Line Channel 14, *Bowls Balls Souls Holes* is inspired by what the artist terms “the production of luck,” and is set primarily inside a bingo hall in Harlem that Rottenberg frequented during her research for the piece. Featuring regulars of the bingo hall – primarily women – as well as Gary “Stretch” Turner, the Guinness World Record holder for the most clothespins pinned to one’s face (one hundred sixty-one), the video imagines





different possibilities for what it could mean to produce – and consume – luck. As if trapped in a dream – part reality, part impossibility – *Bowls Balls Souls Holes* circles around labyrinthine sets, always turning a new corner that hovers between strange and familiar, where the uncanny becomes the norm.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Mika Rottenberg (b. 1976, Argentina) was raised in Israel and lives and works in New York. Recent solo exhibitions have been featured at Jupiter Artland Foundation, Edinburgh, Scotland (2015); The Rose Art Museum, Waltham, MA (2014); The Israel Museum, Jerusalem (2013); Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham, England (2012); de Appel arts centre, Amsterdam (2011); and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA (2010). Notable group exhibitions include *FUTURE PRESENT*, the Schaulager, Münchenstein, Switzerland (2015); *The New Human*, Moderna Museet Malmö, Malmö, Sweden, in collaboration with The Julia Stoschek Collection (2015); *Sights and Sounds: Global Film and Video*, The Jewish Museum, New York (2014); and *Harvest*, Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia (2014). Rottenberg's work has been featured in major biennials including the 56th and 54th Venice Biennales (2015, 2011); the Taipei Biennial (2014); the Istanbul Biennial (2013); and the Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2008).

ABOUT HIGH LINE ART

Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art commissions and produces public art projects on and around the High Line. Founded in 2009, High Line Art presents a wide array of artwork including site-specific commissions, exhibitions, performances, video programs, and a series of billboard interventions. Curated by Cecilia Alemani, the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art, and produced by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art invites artists to think of creative ways to engage with the uniqueness of the architecture, history, and design of the High Line and to foster a productive dialogue with the surrounding neighborhood and urban landscape.

Major support for High Line Art comes from Donald R. Mullen, Jr. and The Brown Foundation, Inc. of Houston. High Line Art is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the New York City Council and from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE HIGH LINE

Friends of the High Line raises 98% of the High Line's annual budget. Owned by the City of New York, the High Line is a public park maintained, operated, and programmed by Friends of the High Line, in partnership with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.

For further information on High Line Art, please visit art.thehighline.org.

MEDIA CONTACT

Ashley Tickle | High Line Art Communications Manager | Friends of the High Line
(212) 206-9922 x2101 | ashley.tickle@thehighline.org

