

MARGO LEAVIN GALLERY

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PRESS INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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John Baldessari

Blue Line (Holbein)

23 January-6 March 2010

Margo Leavin Gallery is pleased to announce an installation in three rooms by John Baldessari, on view January 23 through 6 March 2010.

Baldessari organized the three exhibition galleries to continually shift perception and challenge the viewer's experience. *Blue Line*, executed in 1988 for an exhibition at Palais des Beaux Arts, Brussels, Belgium, is a three dimensional object with photographic images of Hans Holbein the Younger's *The Body of the Dead Christ in the Tomb* (1521) on two sides. Tipped diagonally and installed perpendicular to the main gallery's entrance, the work appears as a single, solid blue line.

In an adjacent gallery is a seascape modified from a photograph in Baldessari's 2009 installation *BRICK BLDG, LG WINDOWS W/ XLENT VIEWS, PARTIALLY FURNISHED, RENOWNED ARCHITECT* (2009) in the Mies van der Rohe designed building of Haus Lange, Krefeld, Germany. Manipulating van der Rohe's attention to the close relationship between architectural interiors and the exterior world, Baldessari covered the interiors of the structure's windows with large photographs of California landscapes, simulating the "XLENT" views. Transferred back to the locale of its origin, the seascape transforms the gallery wall into a large window, albeit a south-facing one set in the West Hollywood neighborhood.

Examining viewers' behaviors towards and reactions to this multi-part installation, Baldessari has installed a delayed video feed, which will play in a third gallery out of view of other work and visitors in other galleries.

Margo Leavin Gallery will have an exhibition of Baldessari's new work this coming May. A retrospective, *Pure Beauty*, recently opened at the Tate Modern, London and will travel to the Museum d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona, 5 February-25 April 2010; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 27 June-12 September; and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, 17 October-9 January 2011. Baldessari was awarded the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at this year's Venice Biennale.

Margo Leavin Gallery is located at 812 North Robertson Boulevard in Los Angeles.
Gallery hours are 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.
