The Psychological Prosthetics Project
PP Valise
Saturday 16 July at 2pm

14 July 2005
Southampton showcase for only UK art performance

The only UK showing of an innovative live-art performance will take place outside of Southampton Institute’s Millais Gallery on Saturday 16 July at 2pm.

PP Valise is a special one-off performance that will last for approximately one hour and will be transmitted via live web streaming to the Yerba Buena Centre for the Arts, San Francisco, USA as part of the ‘Bay Area Now’ exhibition.

PP Valise is a performance, an exhibition in a suitcase, a website and public artwork that explores consumers’ desires for the perfect product that promises to soothe ‘everyday’ emotional problems such as anxiety, depression and shyness.

The live performances are built around a suitcase - the PP Valise - packed with hand-sculpted objects intended “to soothe mental health disorders on a psychological plane.” The artists, Dee Hibbert-Jones and Nomi Talisman take on the roles of salespeople, researchers and nurses, distributing ‘product’ samples, offering demonstrations, and one-on-one consultations.

PP Valise is part of Psychological Prosthetics, a project by artists Dee Hibbert-Jones, Elyse Hochstadt and Nomi Talisman sponsored by the Institute of Research in the Arts, The University of California, Santa Cruz, supported by the Institute’s Millais Gallery. For further information about the project visit the website at www.psychologicalprosthetics.com

Further performances will take place in Europe and Israel during July and August 2005.

PP Valise is a live-art performance, an exhibition in a suitcase, a website and public artwork that investigates pharmaceutical advertising and the comodification of health which promises to soothe “everyday” emotional problems such as anxiety, depression and shyness.

This one-off performance will take place outside of the Millais Gallery and will last for approximately one hour. PP Valise explores consumers’ desires for the perfect product that promises to solve a multitude of disorders and invites viewers to consider the relationship between art and comodification, and the role of the artist as healer, satirist and social critic.

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