

## **NEW BLOOD: The Exquisite Corpse Revisited**

This exhibition presents a contemporary take on the surrealist parlor game, *Exquisite Corpse*, which exploits the mystique of accident in a collective collage of words or images. In this instance, the game involved creating a drawing of a figure by passing an accordion-folded paper “round-robin” style among a group of 20 artists, each contributing a separate head, torso, legs and feet without seeing the section which preceded it.

The game was begun by artist Kenny Cole from Monroe, Maine, who asked 9 local artists to each invite another artist from away to play. The works circulated among the participants by mail, going from towns across Maine to New York, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Rhode Island, North Carolina and Connecticut before making their way back to Waterfall Arts.

Cole says, “All of the artists were very good about covering up their drawings so that the next person wouldn’t see what they had created...Part of why I want to do something like this is because it’s a way of bringing artists together in a kind of non-competitive, non-judgmental way. By having each artist chose a friend it also became a way to meet and kind of get to know new artists through non-verbal correspondence. I think that artists need to make their own opportunities and support one another. A project like this can help artists socialize artistically and re-charge their creative juices in unexpected ways.”