

Press Release, April 1, 2009

IÑIGO MANGLANO-OVALLE

April 25–June 20, 2009

Opening reception on Friday, April 24, 7–9 pm; the artist will be present.

As part of the Gallery Weekend Berlin 2009, Galerie Thomas Schulte presents Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle's first solo show in Berlin. The centerpieces of the exhibition are the installation *Untitled (Bomb)* and the new video *Juggernaut*. The opening reception will be held from 7 to 9 pm on Friday, April 24, the artist will be present.

Untitled (Bomb) is a full-scale reproduction of Fat Man, the second atomic bomb used in history, detonated by the United States over Nagasaki in 1945. Unlike the original, the reproduction is painted with white car varnish and splattered with mud.



***Untitled (Dirty Bomb)*, 2008**
Painted fiberglass and aluminum, epoxy resin, mud
325 x 157.5 x 157.5 cm; Ed. 3 + AP

Just as a sullied sports car forfeits some of its precious appearance, the bomb here almost loses its threatening aspect. A humorous reflection of the artist's strategy for the installation exhibited at Documenta XII, *Phantom Truck*, an accurate reproduction of the mobile laboratory for biological weapons presented in a Power Point presentation by former US Secretary of State Colin Powell before the UN Security Council as evidence of the Iraqi government's possession and production of weapons of mass destruction, *Untitled (Bomb)* now turns reality relations upside down: unlike *Phantom Truck*, which never really existed but was just an invention to justify the US attack of Iraq, *Untitled*

(Bomb) is a copy of a weapon of mass destruction that was actually developed and used. But now, in a version that makes clear the interest of the artist in the ethical dilemma of aesthetics: "What's beautiful and what's monstrous, or are they so intertwined you can't locate either one of them? When I make a beautiful cloud, I still want people to think of a nuclear explosion."



***Cloud Prototype No. 2*, 2006**
Fiberglass and titanium alloy
145.5 x 245.5 x 153.8 cm

Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle was born in Madrid in 1961, and lives and works in Chicago. His work is included in many museum collections around the world, such as Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt, New York's Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and Whitney Museum of American Art, the Library of Congress, Washington DC, Fundació La Caixa, Barcelona, and Fundación Cicneros, Caracas. In 2001 Manglano-Ovalle was given the prestigious MacArthur "Genius Award."

Manglano-Ovalle's projects in 2009 include his participation with *Phantom Truck* in the exhibition *Bilderschlachten* in the German city of Osnabrück (April 22–June 10), an individual show at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, his participation in the group exhibition *Human/Nature: Artists Respond to a Changing Planet* at Berkeley Museum of Art (April 1–September 27), and *Ecomedia* at Sala Parpalló in Valencia (February 10–April 26).