

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

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CIAES OLDENBURG Exhibition
September 25 - November 23, 1969

CHRONOLOGY

- 1929 Born January 28 in Stockholm, son of a Swedish diplomat
- 1933- Residence in New York City; Rye, New York; Oslo, Norway
1937
- 1937- Residence in Chicago. 1950: B.A. in English literature and
1956 art, Yale. 1950-1952: apprentice reporter, Chicago News Bureau. 1952-1954: attends classes at Art Institute of Chicago while employed at part-time jobs. 1955-1956: studio in Chicago; illustrator for *Chicago* magazine; exhibits in local shows
- 1956 Moves to New York, residing on Lower East Side. Until 1961, part-time job in libraries of Cooper Union Museum and Art School
- 1958- Contact with Allan Kaprow, Red Grooms, Jim Dine, and
1959 others interested in theater and environments. December 1958: first exhibition in New York in group show at Red Grooms's City Gallery. May-June 1959: first one-man show in New York, Judson Gallery (drawings, sculpture, objects). Summer: Lenox, Massachusetts
- 1960 The Street: first version shown at Judson Gallery, January-March; second version at Reuben Gallery, May, accompanied by "Ray Gun Spex," six group performances (Oldenburg's contribution: "Snapshots from the City"). April: marries Pat Muschinski. Summer at Provincetown, Massachusetts: "flags," reliefs of scrap wood and other found materials
- 1961- The Store: first pieces shown in group exhibition,
1962 "Environments, Situations, Spaces," at Martha Jackson Gallery, May-June 1961. Moves to studio in former store at 107 East Second Street, where second version of The Store is presented, December 1961-January 1962, followed in same location by ten events, "Ray Gun Theater." March: "Injun" presented at Dallas Museum for Contemporary Arts. June: film, "Pat's Birthday," with Robert Breer. September: one-man show at Green Gallery, Fifty-seventh Street, New York, including pieces from The Store and first giant "soft" sculptures (*Giant Ice-Cream Cone, Floor-burger, etc.*)
- 1963 Sojourn in Venice, California; theme of The Home initiated with the *Bedroom Ensemble*. Three happenings: "Gayety" (Chicago), "Stars" (Washington), and "Autobody" (Los Angeles)
- 1964 *Bedroom Ensemble* shown at Sidney Janis Gallery, January, followed by one-man show, March. Six-month sojourn in Europe. Included in Biennale, Venice; one-man show at Galerie Ileana Sonnabend, Paris
- 1965 Begins work on Airflow theme. First drawings for projected colossal monuments, exhibited in group show at Sidney Janis Gallery, May. Begins first multiple productions (*Tea-bag, Baked Potato*)
- 1966 One-man show at Moderna Museet, Stockholm. First three-dimensional model for a monument (*Door-Handle and Locks*)
- 1967 Publication of *Store Days*, collected notes and reproductions of works in The Store. *Giant Fan* shown in U.S. Pavilion, Expo '67, Montreal. Works in Aspen, Colorado, developing Drum Set theme. One-man show of monument proposals for opening of Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. First fabricated metal piece (*Lipstick—for M.M.*)
- 1968 Works with Gemini, G.E.L., Los Angeles, on lithographic projects and multiples. Attends Democratic Convention in Chicago, August and participates in subsequent show at Richard Feigen Gallery, October, protesting violence there
- 1969 Active in Los Angeles and New Haven on projects involving technology. *Lipstick*, first "feasible" monument to be executed, donated to Yale University by Colossal Keepsake Company, May. The *Bedroom Ensemble* re-created in Hayward Gallery, London, in exhibition "Pop Art." Publication of *Claes Oldenburg—Drawings and Prints*, with introduction and commentary by Gene Baro; *Proposals for Monuments, 1965-69; Claes Oldenburg* by Barbara Rose (forthcoming)