

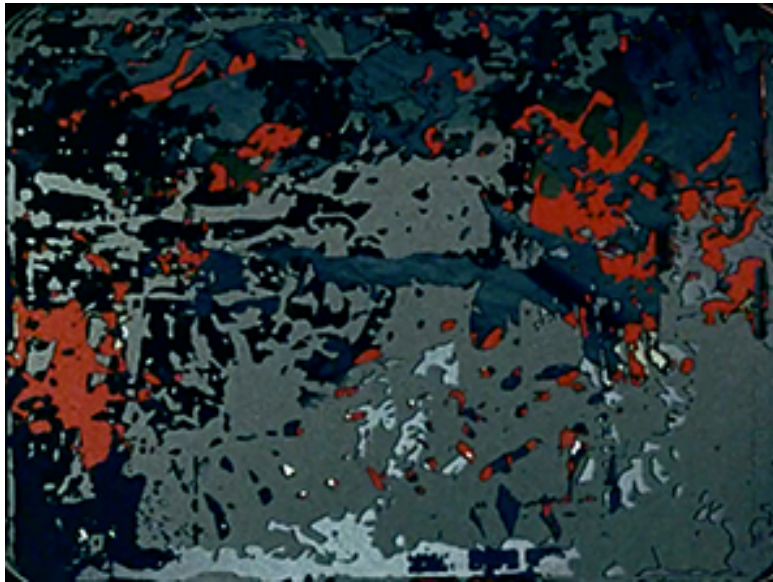
MITCHELL-INNES & NASH

PAT O'NEILL: LET'S MAKE A SANDWICH

December 12, 2015 – January 23, 2016

534 West 26th Street, New York

Opening Reception: Saturday, December 12, 6 – 8 pm



NEW YORK, November 4, 2015—**Mitchell-Innes & Nash** is pleased to present the New York debut exhibition of Los Angeles-based artist **Pat O'Neill**. The exhibition will span five decades of the artist's career and will feature film, sculpture and works on paper. *Let's Make A Sandwich* is the artist's first exhibition since joining the gallery in 2015 and will be on view from December 12, 2015 to January 23, 2016.

O'Neill's groundbreaking films blend iconography, surrealism, humor and sound design and reveal his interest in the connections and divisions between humans and nature. His films illustrate his materiality of sound, images and pacing and his avant-garde use of the optical

printer. The title film "Let's Make A Sandwich," originally made in 1978 on 16mm film, was later transferred to video, and O'Neill has made a new three-channel projection of the work for this exhibition. The film's strange and playful vignettes, including an image of a mother and daughter making their version of a Welsh rabbit sandwich (also known as Welsh rarebit, and contains no rabbit), are illustrative of many of the motifs throughout his other films, sculptures and two-dimensional works in the exhibition. The artist has also made a new single-channel version of his seminal work "Trouble in the Image" (1996).

O'Neill's sculpture practice began in the early 1960s with surrealistic and erotic assemblages of wood and metal. He later moved on to create highly polished forms made out of fiberglass and plexiglass with whimsical and sometimes suggestive forms such as wooden horns, wavy forms wrapped in fur, and pickles. The two-dimensional works in the exhibition are drawings and Xeroxes on paper on which the artist uses a variety of techniques to mark, smudge and overlay imagery. The artist's gestures and mark-making seem obscure, but there is plasticity to his images, and sophistication to his techniques. O'Neill uses drawing as a form of ideating and passing time, and these sketches often reappear in his films.

A student of Robert Heineken's at UCLA in 1961, O'Neill may be the first American to receive a Master's degree in Moving Image Art. During the mid-sixties through the late-seventies, O'Neill was highly active in the West Coast film scene. The artist was a founding member of Oasis, a collaboratively run experimental film exhibitor in Los Angeles who frequently screened experimental works at the Coronet Theater. His film *Water and Power* won the Grand Jury Prize at the 1990 Sundance Film Festival and his complete collection resides at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Film Archive.

In the spring of 2015, with the assistance of a Creative Capital grant, O'Neill completed a new feature film entitled "Where the Chocolate Mountains." Mitchell-Innes & Nash is excited to be screening this new feature for a one night only event at Anthology Film Archives on Sunday December 13, 2015.

About Pat O'Neill

Pat O'Neill lives and works in Los Angeles. His work has been featured in such prominent exhibitions as *Electric Art* (1969, University of California, Los Angeles); 1991 Whitney Biennial of American Art (1991, New York); and

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Los Angeles 1955-1985: The Birth of an Art Capital (2005, Centre Pompidou). Recent museum acquisitions include Hammer Museum (Los Angeles, CA); Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (Berkeley, CA); Walker Art Center (Minneapolis, MN); Carnegie Museum of Art (Pittsburgh, PA); Whitney Museum of American Art (New York, NY); and les Abattoirs/FRAC Midi-Pyrénées (Toulouse, France).

About Mitchell-Innes & Nash

Founded by Lucy Mitchell-Innes and David Nash, who previously headed the worldwide Contemporary and Impressionist & Modern Art divisions of Sotheby's, Mitchell-Innes & Nash places exemplary contemporary artists within a historical context, revealing a continuity of ideas and aesthetic virtuosity from the Modern era through the present day.

Mitchell-Innes & Nash's renowned exhibition program, in both their Madison Avenue and Chelsea locations, fosters excellence within artistic practice, while forging an informed dialogue between emerging and established internationally recognized artists. From acclaimed surveys of 20th century masters, such as Jean Arp, Anthony Caro, Jay DeFeo, Willem de Kooning, Leon Kossoff, Kenneth Noland, Roy Lichtenstein, and Nicolas de Stael, to solo exhibitions of Sarah Berman, Keltie Ferris, Daniel Lefcourt, William Pope.L, Martha Rosler, and Jessica Stockholder, Mitchell-Innes & Nash has proven expertise in both advancing the careers of emerging artists and maintaining the superior standard set by established artists.

Join the "Pat O'Neill" conversation on Instagram and Twitter by mentioning @miandn and using the #PatONeill and #LetsMakeASandwich hashtags when posting.

Image credit: Pat O'Neill, *Let's Make A Sandwich*, 1978. 16mm transferred to video. 20 mins. Courtesy Cherry and Martin, Los Angeles, CA

Listings Information: Mitchell-Innes & Nash is located at 534 West 26th Street in Chelsea and 1018 Madison Avenue on the Upper East Side.

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