



michèle didier

## PRESS RELEASE

### Leigh Ledare

The exhibition ***Double Bind*** will open on Thursday September 13, 2012  
from 6 pm to 9 pm in presence of the artist

The exhibition will take place from September 13 to November 10, 2012

mfc-michèle didier

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## ***Double Bind,*** **double anniversary, double exhibition**

*1 publishing house, 25 years, 38 artists, 54 productions published*  
*1 gallery, 1 year, 8 exhibitions, 26 productions presented*

25 years have passed, 25 years of producing artist's books, artist's videos, artist's films, artist's multiples, artist's installations, multiple collaborations et one first year of exhibitions in Paris.

mfc-michèle didier turns «25 + 1»!

On this occasion, the publisher will make no exception; mfc-michèle didier remains true to the artists and their productions with the latest publication, *Double Bind*.

To celebrate this double anniversary, mfc-michèle didier has chosen to collaborate with the American artist Leigh Ledare. The artist uses photography, archival material, text and taboo to interrogate human and social relationships, and the photographic medium itself in equal turns. Just like his mentor Larry Clark, Leigh Ledare deals with rather sensitive subjects.

After he made headlines with *Pretend You're Actually Alive*, a work based on the documentation of his mother's extraverted sexuality, he explores in this new project a couple's intimacy, challenged by a love triangle. *Double Bind* consists of two series of photographs, made during two successive photo shoots, reuniting first the artist and his ex-wife, Meghan Ledare-Fedderly, and afterwards, Meghan and her current husband, the photographer Adam Fedderly. These two photographic archives, mysterious and at the same time based on an assumed voyeurism, are the subject of one of the constitutive volumes of *Double Bind*.

This new publication gives rise to the *Double Bind* exhibition at mfc-michèle didier, that will open in presence of the artist on Thursday September 13, 2012, from 6 pm to 9 pm, for the joint opening with the galleries in le Haut-Marais.

The exhibition leads mfc-michèle didier to reconstruct the exhibition in the isolated space of one of the rooms of a parisian hotel, as the confidential counterpart of the more conventional version in the gallery. *Double Bind* will thus result in a double exhibition. The *Double Bind* room will be accessible by appointment and under certain conditions, please contact Jade Lobato de Faria for this: [jade@annesamson.com](mailto:jade@annesamson.com) or +33 (0)1 40 36 84 32.

## ***Double Bind,* one publication**

*Double Bind* is Leigh Ledare's project that mfc-michèle didier has chosen to focus on and that is the basis of a new publication, realized in close collaboration with the artist.

*Double Bind* is built from a protocol established by Leigh Ledare. He organizes, two months apart, two three-day work sessions. The first session brings the artist together with his ex-wife, Meghan Ledare-Fedderly, in a hotel room in New York's countryside. For the second session, Meghan comes back to the same place with her current husband, the photographer Adam Fedderly.

During these two sessions, 742 photographs are taken by Leigh Ledare and Adam Fedderly and trace the course of the days, reflecting the couple's intimacy from each husband's perspective. This process gives rise to two series of black and white silver-based photographs with Meghan as sole model. The two subjective archives resulting from the photo shoots provide the basis of this project and evoke a ontological and phenomenological comparison of the subject, seen through the circumstances of the two relationships: on one hand, the potential of the newlyweds' partnership; on the other a relationship doomed to impossibility.

These two distinct archives form the diptych structure of the work. And the *Double Bind* publication remains true to this duality. *Double Bind* consists of three volumes gathered in one set. It has been published in a limited series of 85 numbered and signed copies and 15 artist's proofs.

Volume 1: *Husbands* presents all the photographs of Meghan Ledare-Fedderly shot by Leigh Ledare and Adam Fedderly. Both series face each other, with each page mirrored in each spread.

Volume 2: *Diptychs* consists of assembled collages and is also based on the duality between the husbands. It goes back to the original principle of the projects presentation: a white background for Adam Fedderly and a black one for Leigh Ledare. Ten original photographs of Meghan, inserted between the pages, complete the volume.

Volume 3: *Ephemeras* proposes a third series of images in six magazines, each consisting of 80 pages. They visually reconstitute a series of ephemeras accumulated on a pile, essential clues to understand the artist's work. The 480 ephemeras represent only partially the iconography the artist has collected over time. Gathered from magazines and other printed sources, these additional images play an analytical role and create sense from a shared body of representation. This iconographic ensemble will be presented as a double installation in the gallery and in the hotel room. The 480 images will totally cover all the walls.



*Husbands, volume 1 of 3*















*Ephemeras, volume 3 of 3*

## Leigh Ledare

Leigh Ledare, born in 1976 in Seattle, uses photography and video, just like Larry Clark, who's assistant he was for several years. The similarities between both artists are more than the use of the same mediums. Leigh Ledare is just as sensitive as Larry Clark to...sensitive topics.

His work *Pretend You're Actually Alive*, published and presented by Andrew Roth in New York in 2008, addresses the delicate question of the mother-son relationship through her sexuality. Leigh Ledare's mother acts for almost 10 years as the photographer's model. Not playing the part of a maternal figure but of the one a woman with an assertive sexuality.

"This foundational series for the artist provides a key for understanding much of Ledare's practice in which an apparent transgressiveness is, in fact, a cipher for a larger reflection on the workings of photography." (Elena Filipovic, curator of the exhibition Leigh Ledare, et al. presented in September 2012 at WIELS Contemporary Art Centre, Brussels).

Leigh Ledare disconcerts, he interrogates. He may surprise sometimes; he is always shocking. The spectator is not the only one being destabilized, as he places himself in an uncomfortable position when he documents his intimacy and that of his relatives.

The presentation of Leigh Ledare's work always gives rise to strong reactions from the public and from the press, as a consequence of the taboos he raises, and the transgressions and provocations he plays with. The topics he tackles concern us all, making headlines in New York where he presented his first shows, at MoMA/PS1 amongst others, as well as at Les Rencontres d'Arles in 2009 and 2010, at the Garage Center for Contemporary Culture in Moscow or more recently at The Box in Los Angeles.

Leigh Ledare has taken part in the exhibition *New Americans 2* at Michel Rein gallery in Paris, in January 2012, a curatorial proposition by Ami Barak. It is mfc-michèle didier gallery's turn to propose a new Leigh Ledare solo exhibition on the occasion of his new publication, *Double Bind*.



## The publisher's 25th anniversary

mfc-michèle didier opened in Brussels in 1987 and focuses since on the production and on the publication of original works by contemporary artists.

Acting as an intermediary between the artists and production's professionals (such as printing, film industry, etc.) and continuously striving to keep intact the original project trusted by the artists, mfc-michèle didier produces artist's books, installations, films and videos, and provides a genuine and multiplied work.

So far, mfc - michèle-didier has published and produced all the works listed below:

Dennis Adams	<i>Recovered 10 on 10 - Adams on Garanger</i>
Carl Andre	<i>America Drill</i>
Robert Barry	<i>Details</i>
Robert Barry	<i>Art Lovers</i>
Robert Barry	<i>One Billion Colored Dots</i>
Robert Barry	<i>One Billion Dots</i>
Samuel Bianchini	<i>Poursuite de Poursuite</i>
AA Bronson	<i>life and works</i>
AA Bronson	<i>Through The Looking Glass</i>
Stanley Brouwn	<i>ell / ells – step / steps</i>
Philippe Cazal	<i>Factice</i>
Claude Closky	<i>Inside a Triangle</i>
Hannah Collins	<i>Hair Shawl</i>
David Cunningham	<i>Alphabet</i>
Charles de Meaux	<i>Marfa Mystery Lights</i>
Braco Dimitrijevic	<i>Parc Event / P.P. Rubens - Gerda Bollen</i>
Peter Downsbrough	<i>OCCUPIED</i>
Peter Downsbrough	<i>FROM(TO)</i>
Peter Downsbrough	<i>ET/C</i>
Paul-Armand Gette	<i>Nympha Nocturna ssp. Rosea P.-A. G.</i>
Liam Gillick	<i>Underground (Fragments of Future Histories)</i>
Liam Gillick	<i>Underground (Trailer for a Book)</i>
Joseph Grigely	<i>Blueberry Surprise</i>
Carsten Höller	<i>The Beat</i>
Pierre Huyghe	<i>Le Château de Turing</i>
On Kawara	<i>One Million Years</i>
On Kawara	<i>I MET</i>
On Kawara	<i>I WENT</i>
On Kawara	<i>I GOT UP</i>
Matt Keegan	<i>= =</i>
Christian Marclay	<i>Ephemera</i>
Allan McCollum	<i>The Book of Shapes</i>

Annette Messenger	<i>Mon guide du tricot</i>
Annette Messenger	<i>Ma collection de champignons bons et de champignons mortels</i>
Annette Messenger	<i>Mes dessins secrets</i>
Annette Messenger	<i>Ma collection de proverbes</i>
John Miller	<i>Shooting Log</i>
John Miller, Jutta Koether	<i>Selling Short</i>
Jonathan Monk	<i>Diecimila</i>
Robert Morris	<i>Hurting Horses</i>
Antonio Muntadas	<i>Fear, Panic, Terror</i>
Philippe Parreno	<i>Fade to Black</i>
Michelangelo Pistoletto	<i>Le Miroir comme Tableau</i>
Hermann Pitz	<i>Forme Entière</i>
Allen Ruppersberg	<i>The New Five Foot Shelf</i>
Allen Ruppersberg	<i>The New Five Foot Shelf of Books</i>
Allen Ruppersberg	<i>Chapter VI</i>
Joe Scanlan	<i>Shipping Cartons</i>
Jim Shaw	<i>Dream Object Book</i>
Klaus Scherübel	<i>Het Boek</i>
Klaus Scherübel	<i>Compilation - Le Livre, Mallarmé</i>
Lawrence Weiner	<i>Liberté et Contraintes</i>
Christopher Wool/Josh Smith	<i>can your monkey do the dog</i>



## The gallery's first anniversary

mfc-michèle didier gallery in Paris, located 66 rue Notre-Dame de Nazareth in le Haut-Marais, 3rd arrondissement, gives the chance to present the publisher's productions and is also a place of reflection on the particular artistic discipline of the artist's book. At the same time, it gives the opportunity to show the importance of ephemera and published, multiplied works in contemporary art.

For the last year at the gallery, one exhibition after the other continuously reveals the publisher's energy devoted to the artists and their work.

Up to this date, the gallery has shown the following exhibitions:

Claude Closky, *Inside a Triangle*

From Saturday September 10 to Friday October 7, 2011 included

Christian Marclay, *Ephemera*

From Saturday October 8 to Saturday October 15, 2011 included

Annette Messenger, *Mes dessins secrets, Mon guide du tricot, Ma collection de champignons bons et champignons mortels*

From Thursday October 22 to Saturday November 19, 2011 included

Lynda Benglis / Robert Morris, *1973 - 1974*

From Thursday October 22 to Saturday November 19, 2011 included

Regard sur nos productions, *Part I*

From Saturday November 26 to Saturday December 24, 2011 included

Regard sur nos productions, *Part II*

From Saturday January 7 to Saturday February 11, 2012 included

Robert Barry, *Taking your Time*

From Saturday February 18 to Saturday May 5, 2012 included

Matt Keegan, = =

From Saturday May 12 to Saturday June 30, 2012 included

Richard Prince, *Pre-Appropriation Works, 1973 - 1974*

From Saturday July 7 to Saturday September 1, 2012 included

Leigh Ledare, *Double Bind*

From Thursday September 13 to Saturday November 10, 2012 included



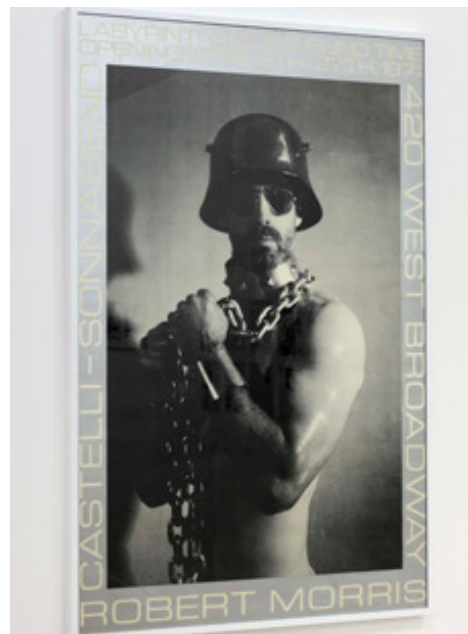
Claude Closky, *Inside a Triangle*



Christian Marclay, *Ephemera*



Annette Messager, *Mes dessins secrets, Mon guide du tricot, Ma collection de champignons bons et champignons mortels*



Lynda Benglis / Robert Morris, 1973 - 1974



Regard sur nos productions, *Part I* and *Part II*



Robert Barry, *Taking your Time*



Matt Keegan, = =



## Selection of press images



Leigh LEDARE, *Double Bind Husbands*, vol. 1 of 3, 21.6 x 27.9 cm, 96 pages, limited edition of 85 sets of 3 volumes and 15 A.P., certificate signed and numbered by the artist Produced and published in 2012 by mfc-michèle didier  
©2012 Leigh Ledare and mfc-michèle didier



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Leigh LEDARE, *Double Bind Diptychs*, vol. 2 of 3, 30 x 38,3 cm, 112 pages, limited edition of 85 sets of 3 volumes and 15 A.P., certificate signed and numbered by the artist  
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Leigh LEDARE, *Double Bind Ephemeris*, vol 3 of 3, 30.9 x 41.3 cm, 480 pages, 6 revues, 80 pages each, limited edition of 85 sets of 3 volumes and 15 A.P., certificate signed and numbered by the artist  
Produced and published in 2012 by mfc-michèle didier  
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Leigh LEDARE, *Double Bind Ephemeris*, vol 3 of 3, 30.9 x 41.3 cm, 480 pages, 6 revues, 80 pages each, limited edition of 85 sets of 3 volumes and 15 A.P., certificate signed and numbered by the artist  
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