

Once Upon A Time

Nov. 20, 2008 – Jan. 9, 2009

Opening Reception: Thurs., Nov. 20, 2008 6-8pm

Storytelling and Artist Talk: Wed., Dec. 10, 2008 6-8pm

Curators: Jean Barberis and ChenTamir

Artists: Karen Azoulay, Clifford Borress, Shary Boyle, Andrea Dezso, Tory Franklin, Yunmee Kyong, Fabienne Lasserre, Galia Offri, Marie Losier, Motomichi Nakamura, Trong Gia Nguyen, Eun Ha Paek, Christodoulos Panayiotou, Carin Rodenborn, Dasha Shishkin, Saya Woolfalk, and Nick Yulman



Image: Tory Franklin, "Crawling The Walls (a contemporary bestiary)", 2008, screen printed wall paper, 9" x 8"

"Once Upon A Time" pulls its viewers back into the awe and wonder we experienced while captivated by Cinderella, Momotaro, or any fantastical folk-tales. Like kids with flashlights under the covers, curled up with the Brothers Grimm, we have always been tantalized by the unbounded worlds fairy tales bring to life. Perhaps the most primary and democratic of all narrative forms, the fairy tale has swept up countless artists' imaginations and deployed their talents to create alternatives to our routine daily lives. Fairy tales distill our most instinctual fears and worldviews making them perfect for anyone with a fruitful imagination. Their concise form is often a springboard for improvisation, revision, and social critique. The rich symbolism and metaphor they employ help us clarify our emotions and understand the dangers and rewards of our actions within our cultures.

Jean Barberis was born in France and is currently based in New York. He directs Flux Factory with Chen Tamir, who is a writer and curator from Israel and Canada. This exhibition follows previous collaborations between the two, including "Grizzly Proof," an exhibition inspired by the film "Project Grizzly," and "New York, New York, New York," a large-scale creative panorama of New York City.