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The Suzanne Geiss Company presents

RAMMELLZEE: THE EQUATION

The Letter Racers

"In order for Hell to freeze over the Letters must race" - RMMELLZEE

March 8 - April 21, 2012

OPENING: March 8th, 2012 6-8pm

The Suzanne Geiss Company, 76 Grand Street, New York NY 10013

NEW YORK, NY

The Suzanne Geiss Company is pleased to present its inaugural exhibition RMMELLZEE: THE EQUATION, *The Letter Racers*. Rmmellzee's manifestoes "Iconoclast Panzerism" and "Gothic Futurism" explored graffiti's ability to liberate the transcendental powers of the alphabet that had been corrupted by Western culture. A manifestation of the artist's theories, his Letter Racers were created over more than 15 years in his storied loft, The Battle Station. They are being shown in New York for the first time.

"In the 14th Century the monks ornamented and illustrated the manuscripts of letters. In the 21st and 22nd century the letters of the alphabet through competition are now armamented for letter racing and galactic battles. This was made possible by a secret equation know as THE RMMELLZEE."

Suspended in the interstice between the metaphysical and the material, the 52 Letter Racers displayed in this show are poised to activate and attack. Constructed from urban detritus - Canal Street perfume caps, spray can triggers, and king's crown air fresheners - they are objects of human experience refracted and reconfigured to create a revised language of urban existence.

The exhibition coincides with the installation of RMMELLZEE's third set of Letter Racers at The Museum of Modern Art as part of the *Print/Out* exhibition on view from February 19th through May 14th, 2012.

-continued on reverse-



ABOUT RAMMELLZEE

(b. 1960, New York; d. 2010)

One of hip-hop's most enigmatic figures, RAMMELLZEE was a graffiti writer, rapper, and sculptor. Born in Far Rockaway, Queens, RAMMELLZEE began a brief graffiti career on the A train in the mid-1970's. The equation was born in 1979. By the early 1980's, he was creating paintings and three-dimensional sculptures of letters, many of which were shown in galleries and museums. As a musician, RAMMELLZEE had a nasal rap style, sometimes called "gangsta duck." He appeared in Charlie Ahearn's film *Wild Style*, and his 1983 song "Beat Bop" - produced and with a cover design by Jean-Michel Basquiat - featured prominently in Henry Chalfrant and Tony Silver's documentary *Style Wars*. A reclusive artist, RAMMELLZEE all but stopped exhibiting his work in public and spent much of the last two decades of his life in his Tribeca loft he called the Battle Station, where he was rarely photographed without wearing one of his handmade, science fiction-style masks. He died in 2010 at the age of forty-nine.

RAMMELLZEE has had solo exhibitions at the Helmond Museum and the Groniger Museum in Holland. Recently, a recreation of the Battle Station was featured in *Art in the Streets* at the Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles.

ABOUT THE SUZANNE GEISS COMPANY

The Suzanne Geiss Company, established in 2010, is a gallery situated on Grand Street in downtown Manhattan. The Company's focus is the comprehensive support of artists and their wide-ranging, ambitious visions. Motivated by a commitment to innovative art across disciplines, the program encompasses historical exhibitions, shows by established and emerging artists, as well as a range of site-specific artist projects.

The Suzanne Geiss Company represents the Estate of RAMMELLZEE.

Hours Open

March 8 - April 21, 2012

Tuesday - Saturday 12 - 6 pm

To receive additional information please contact: shea@suzannegeiss.com