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For Immediate Release

Privacy Please!

***Curated by Erin Riley-Lopez
and Annette Rusin***

**November 2 – November 26, 2011
Reception: Thursday, November 3,
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm**



A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to announce *Privacy Please!*, a group exhibition co-curated by Erin Riley-Lopez and Annette Rusin. The exhibit will take place in A.I.R.'s Gallery II from November 2 through November 26, 2011. An opening reception will take place on Thursday, November 3, from 6 to 9 pm.

Privacy Please! explores how women artists express private grooming rituals in their work. During the second wave of the modern feminist movement in the 1970's, female scholars questioned notions of beauty and how its perception was often linked to social standards. In *The Mask of Beauty*, feminist scholar Una Stannard considered the role the media plays in women's desire to be beautiful. She wrote that "social conditioning impels women to don a disguise." Where are we today, forty years later?

Like their historical counterparts, many of the women artists in *Privacy Please!* turn a critical lens toward how current notions of beauty—often perpetrated by the media—affect women today. The fourteen artists in this exhibition use ideas of transformation, their own childhood, or more conceptual ideas of beauty, and employ a wide range of media to explore private grooming rituals. The exhibition includes the work of: **Becca Albee, Firelei Báez, Anjali Bhargava, Louisa Flannery, Teri Frame, Carrie Johnson, Kathleen Kranack, Jessica Lagunas, Rosemary Meza-Desplas, Betsy Odom, Jessica Scott-Felder, Samantha Senack, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, and Ellen Wetmore.**

About the Curators: **Erin Riley-Lopez** is a Los Angeles-based independent curator. **Annette Rusin** is a Brooklyn-based 2009-2010 A.I.R. Gallery Fellowship Recipient.

Image: Betsy Odom, *Bulldog 30*, 2009, Molded plywood, fabric, foam, tooled leather, and ribbon (10 x 12 x 30 inches)

A.I.R. Gallery is located at 111 Front Street, #228 in the DUMBO neighborhood of Brooklyn. Gallery hours: Wed. – Sun., 11am to 6pm. For directions please visit www.airgallery.org. For more information please contact Gallery Director, Julie Lohnes at 212-255-6651 or jlohnes@airgallery.org.

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