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AVERY LAWRENCE IS MOVING A TREE AND ARRANGING SUITCASES

JUNE 22 - AUGUST 4, 2012



Avery Lawrence, *Arranging Suitcases*, 2012

1708 Gallery is pleased to present its upcoming exhibition, ***Avery Lawrence is Moving a Tree and Arranging Suitcases***, on view June 22 through August 4, 2012, featuring the work of New Orleans-based artist Avery Lawrence. Please join us at the opening reception on **Friday, June 22** for a performance by the artist. Lawrence will also be performing at the exhibition's closing on **Friday, August 3**.

With an interdisciplinary studio practice bridging video, sculpture, installation, drawing and performance, Lawrence creates works that engage concepts of perseverance and futility through physically grueling, absurd actions. In *Moving a Tree*, one character fells a dying walnut tree while another painstakingly reconstructs it. In *Arranging Suitcases*, three characters haul different parts of a set of suitcases across train tracks and canals, finally uniting to reveal their contents. Through these surreal narratives, drawings and sculptural objects, Lawrence explores themes of affection, disorder, persistence and failure.

Avery Lawrence was born in Charlottesville and holds a BA in Visual Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. Lawrence is the founder of The Pomp, an experimental print shop and studio in Charlottesville, and has exhibited at the (E)merge Art Fair, SCOPE Miami and Heiner Contemporary in Washington, D.C. He is the recipient of the SCOPE Foundation Award and was recently named one of the "100

Under 100 Art Superstars of the South" by Oxford American magazine. Lawrence lives and works in New Orleans, LA. For more information about Lawrence, please visit his website: www.averylawrence.com.

Avery Lawrence is Moving a Tree and Arranging Suitcases is courtesy of Heiner Contemporary in Washington, D.C. with additional support from VCU's Department of Kinetic Imaging and Crutchfield New Media. Accommodations for the artist generously provided by the Linden Row Inn.

1708 Gallery's current exhibition season is generously supported in part by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Lewis & Butler Foundation, Bill and Pam Royall, the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

1708 Gallery is a non-profit arts organization committed to presenting exceptional new art. 1708 Gallery is committed to providing opportunities for artistic innovation for emerging and established artists and to expanding the understanding and appreciation of new art for the public.