

GET OAK FIRMNESS

Curated by Elvis Richardson

April 24 from 6pm @ Hell Gallery
"Stimulus Package" performance by
Renny Kodgers

"Lets Get Boweried", performance
and installation by Nat Thomas and
Concettina Inserra

April 25th – 26th @ Ocular Lab
"The Model" performance and
installation by Renny Kodgers
(performance on Saturday April 25th
3-5pm)

May 2nd – 17th @ Ocular Lab
"Ultra Primo" installation by
Claire Lambe
(Opening May 2nd 3-5pm)

www.getoakfirmness.com



The Model Renny Kodgers
Photo: Aileen Robalino

Hell Gallery and Ocular Lab present **GET OAK FIRMNESS**, a performance and exhibition program with work by **Claire Lambe**, **Renny Kodgers** and the collaborative duo **Nat Thomas and Concettina Inserra**.

Curated by **Elvis Richardson** the project runs from 24 April to 17 May and explores the expectations, power functions and romantic notions of the penis.

In the swollen promises of email spam and miracle products, the power to erect larger dimensions of the penis is the embodiment of manhood in redevelopment. **GET OAK FIRMNESS** presents a take on masculinity through performance and sculpture and the commanding phallus of the penis.

GET OAK FIRMNESS begins Friday 6pm, 24 April 2009 at **Hell Gallery**.

With more than a passing resemblance to the great bearded crooner, Kenny Rodgers, **Renny Kodgers** is a force of charm few can resist and will bring his charisma to Hell Gallery in his debut Melbourne performance titled *Stimulus Package*.

Richardson states: "Renny comes to Melbourne buffed, primed and ready to up-the-anti to Melbourne audiences. His sizzling alter-ego renditions of a silver coiffured crooner (with kit off) are sure to heat up the cool April evenings".

Melbourne born legend Leigh Bowrey is the inspiration for **Nat Thomas and Concettina Inserra's** opening night dress up party *Lets Get Boweried*.

Thomas and Inserra have created an array of outrageous costumes and will transform the gallery into a "green room" photo studio and stage to 'make current' re-enactments of Bowrey's dandyism and body art.

GET OAK FIRMNESS will continue at **Ocular Lab** on Saturday 25 April where **Renny Kodgers** sports a prosthetic penis as he models nude for a life drawing class in the gallery in a performance titled *The Model*. Simultaneously performing the role of model and tutor Renny instructs his students in the fine art of rendering the human form as he takes them through his posturing repertoire to hilarious effect.

On Saturday 2 May at **Ocular Lab** **GET OAK FIRMNESS** extends the penis encounter with an installation of **Claire Lambe's** enlarged bronzed dildos titled *Ultra Primo*. Housed in a mirrored wonder cabinet secreted in the gallery space Lambe presents the penis as a weapon of display. The dildo, the physical substitute for the penis is combined with the handle of a rolling pin posing flagrant gendered questions about absolute power and who wields it.

GET OAK FIRMNESS

Curated by Elvis Richardson

6pm Friday 24 April 2009 @ Hell Gallery

“Stimulus Package” performance by Renny Kodgers

“Lets Get Boweried”, performance and installation by Nat Thomas and Concettina Inserra

Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 April 2009 @ Ocular Lab

“The Model” performance and installation by Renny Kodgers

(performance on Saturday 25 April 3-5pm)

2-17 May 2009 @ Ocular Lab

“Ultra Primo” installation by Claire Lambe

(Opening 2 May 3-5pm)

IMAGES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Curator and artists available for interviews

elvis@elvisrichardson.com

0401 346 520

GET OAK FIRMNESS

<http://www.getoakfirmness.com>

<http://www.elvisrichardson.com>

<http://www.rennykodgers.com>

Hell Gallery

5a Railway Place

Richmond (behind Coles Supermarket on Swan St).

Open Saturdays only 12 - 6pm or by appointment

Ph Jess & Jordy 0431974578

hellgallery@gmail.com

<http://www.hellgallery.blogspot.com>

Ocular Lab Inc

31 Pearson Street

Brunswick West VIC 3055

(Cnr Pearson and Albert)

Ph 03 9380 9184

ocularlab@gmail.com

<http://www.ocularlabinc.com>



Ultra Primo Claire Lambe bronze

Photo: Joseph Lambe

Renny Kodgers
Photo: Jade Carden





Nat Thomas and Concettina Inserra