

## PIERO GOLIA

### **Tattoo**

Dates: June 28 – August 2, 2001  
Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10 - 5  
Opening: Thursday, July 12, 6-8

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For a first summer exhibition I-20 will present an installation by Italian artist Piero Golia.

The tension in his work is between play and irony. Previously the artist climbed on top of a palm tree as a performance for the Turin art fair and intended to stay there until the photographs of this installation were sold.

Golia is an artist who takes advantage of opportunity. For this show he persuaded a woman that he met on the street to get his face tattooed on her back for an image that will last forever or at least for now.

Golia's exhibition will consist of three floor-to-ceiling vinyl prints showing different stages of the tattooing process. The final result is a photograph that shows the tattoo completed – a life-size portrait of the artist's face on the woman's back.

Playing ironically with the idea of the artistic ego and the universal longing to be immortalized, Golia touches on classical issues of the artistic myth: *What I dreamed to be, I'll be forever*. Golia's irony becomes real if one considers how tangible the concept of eternity can be on someone's back.

In the East Room another work is shown: *Giraffe with no title, but with a pedestal so high it makes her head bang on the ceiling*. The pedestal is obviously exceeding its function to the point where the inflatable toy giraffe's newly achieved status as an art object is questionable.

Piero Golia was born in 1974 in Naples, Italy, where he lives and works. In 2001 Golia will have a solo exhibition at Viafarini, Milan, and will also be included in the Biennale di Tirana at the Albanian National Gallery. For this Biennale the artist plans to row a boat from Italy to the Albanian coast. Previous solo exhibition venues in Italy include Studio Morra, Naples, and Maze Gallery, Turin. Golia has also been included in group exhibitions at the Contemporary Art Gallery, Siracusa; the Museo di Castel S. Elmo, Napoli; and Open Space, Milan.

**For further information or visuals, please contact I-20, t: 212- 645-1100; f: 212- 645-0198; [judelson@i-20.com](mailto:judelson@i-20.com); [www.i-20.com](http://www.i-20.com)**

***Next exhibition: João Onofre, September 15 – October 27***

***Sontext (performance), September 15***