

# Petzel

For Immediate Release

## **ALLAN MCCOLLUM**

*The Shapes Project: Perfect Couples*

September 4 – October 4, 2014

Opening reception: Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm.

Petzel Gallery is pleased to announce a solo exhibition by New York based artist Allan McCollum. This is his sixth solo exhibition with the gallery.

McCollum has for years challenged our culture's tendency to value single unique artworks over objects produced in large quantities. For "The Shapes Project," started back in 2005, he has set out to design a system that would allow for the production of a single, unique shape for every person in the world. To make certain that the system will be able to accommodate everyone, it has been organized to produce over 31,000,000,000 different shapes, which is more than the highest population estimates might require. The show in September will be the latest iteration of the "Shapes Project" called "Perfect Couples" which is an attempt to create pairs of his Shapes that could suggest unique human relationships.

Allan McCollum was born in 1944 Los Angeles, California, and lives and works in New York City. His work is in over seventy museum collections, including the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Guggenheim Museum of Art, New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York and the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles. Solo retrospectives of McCollum's work have been held internationally including at the Musée d'Art Moderne, Villeneuve d'Ascq, Lille; the Sprengel Museum, Hannover; the Serpentine Gallery, London; among many others. He has produced public art projects in both the United States and Europe. His work was also recently included in the 9th Bienal do Mercosul, in Porto Alegre, Brazil, curated by Sofía Hernández Chong Cuy. Numerous texts on McCollum's work have been published by a number of art historians and critics including Martha Buskirk, Maryjo Marks, Rosalind Krauss, Craig Owens, Hal Foster, Anne Rorimer, Lynne Cooke, Lars Nittve, Thomas Lawson, Catherine Quéloz, Helen Molesworth, Johannes Meinhardt, Claude Gintz, Suzi Gablik, Nicolas Bourriaud, Rhea Anastas, Nancy Princenthal, and Jill Gasparina. In 2012, JRP Ringier published a monograph of McCollum's work.

Petzel Gallery is located at 456 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10011. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM. For press inquiries, please contact Andrew Black at [andrew@petzel.com](mailto:andrew@petzel.com), or call (212) 680-9467.