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March 2010 – New York, NY

FASTWÜRMS: *Skry-Pod* U.S. Debut at Art in General's Spring Gala

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2010 Spring Benefit

March 16, 2010

Skylight One Hanson

One Hanson Place

Brooklyn, New York

7:00 pm Cocktails and FASTWÜRMS: *Skry-Pod*

8:00 pm Dinner

9:30 pm Dessert, Dancing, and FASTWÜRMS: *Skry-Pod*

"Discover the coven. Cast the circle. Cultivate your familiars. Celebrate the magic of 'old skool' terrorist chic."

---FASTWÜRMS, 27th Sao Paulo Biennial, 2006

For Art in General's 5th Annual Spring Benefit Gala the Canadian artist-duo, FASTWÜRMS will be performing *Skry-Pod*, an intimate social exchange performance composed of a team of artist card readers using traditional Tarot cards and custom *Skry-Pod* iTouch and iPhone Tarot applications. "Skry" is a traditional term used to describe divination or clairvoyance by gazing into water, candle flames, and unique to *Skry-Pod*, touch LCD screens. Drawing on the artists' exploration of the subversive "otherness" of Witch culture and its relationship to acts of resistance, *Skry-Pod* engages the public in a contained spectacle and tableaux of mediated and direct intimacy as participants take part in *Skry-Pod* Tarot readings and divination scenarios. Originally performed at Toronto's Nuit Blanche Festival in 2009, Art in General's Spring Gala is the US debut of *Skry-Pod*.

Formed in 1979, FASTWÜRMS is the trademark and joint authorship of Toronto/Creemore- based multidisciplinary artists Kim Kozzi and Dai Skuse. Working in film, installation, performance, drawing, and sculpture, FASTWÜRMS' artwork melds high and popular cultures, bent identity politics, social exchange, and a Witch-positive DIY cinematic sensibility. Throughout their work, FASTWÜRMS' respond to the unreal construction of Witch stereotypes with an aesthetic that is humorous, relational and inclusive with a bent toward working class, craft collaborations, and queer alliance. The name FASTWÜRMS is based on the artist's "perverse respect" for Rainer Werner Fassbinder, and a fast intercut 'punk' style of film editing, that Kozzi had developed the late 1970's, called "the wurm technique."

FASTWÜRMS has exhibited and created public commissions and installations, performance, video and film projects, across Canada and in the United States, Europe, Korea, and Japan. Exhibitions include *Anacowda- happy to feed the world*,

for Rococo Tattoo at the Power Plant, *Superstition* at Gallery TPW, *Red of Tooth and Kaw* at the Mendel Art Gallery, all in Toronto, *BLOOD & SWASH 3* at Parlour Projects, Brooklyn, N.Y. and at the 27th Bienale de Sao Paulo, as well as *Donky@Ninja@Witch* at the Art Gallery of York University, North York, the Contemporary Art Galley, Vancouver and Plug In ICI, Winnipeg. They recently performed *Krummi Krunkar: Tarot+Tattoo* in Reykjavik as part of the SEQUENCES Festival.

Skry-Pod readers: Brooklyn 2010

FASTWÜRMS: Kim Kozzi & Dai Skuse
Bradley Vladimer Benedetti
Elinor Galbraith
Jacob Ireland
Shelley Marlow
Scott McGovern
Jenn E. Norton

To purchase tickets to this event, or for more information please visit <http://www.artingeneral.org/events/988> or contact Anna Starling at 212.219.0473, ext, 25 or anna@artingeneral.org

About Art in General

Founded in 1981 in Lower Manhattan, Art in General is a nonprofit organization that assists artists with the production and presentation of new work. It changes in response to the needs of artists and engages the public with their work. Since it was established, the organization has emerged as one of New York City's leading nonprofits devoted to supporting and stimulating the creation of contemporary art, providing an environment in which artists may exhibit unconventional work and exchange ideas with their peers.

Location: 79 Walker Street, NYC, at the southeast corner of Cortland Alley. One block south of Canal Street, between Lafayette and Broadway.

Subway directions: take the 6, A-C-E, N-Q-R-W, or J-M-Z to Canal Street.

Gallery hours: Tuesday-Saturday 12-6 pm.

Admission: Always free.

Art in General's 6th Floor Gallery and restrooms are wheelchair accessible, and we can provide assistance to visitors with disabilities as requested.