

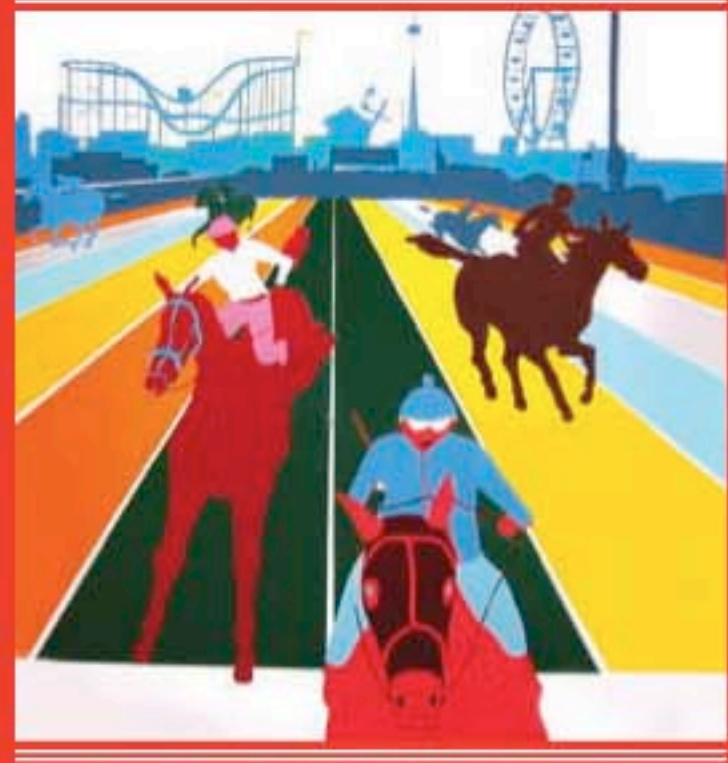
DREAMLAND ARTIST CLUB

IN ASSOCIATION WITH CONEY ISLAND USA

JUNE 12-SEPTEMBER 6, 2004

CONEY ISLAND

CONCEIVED BY STEVE POWERS AND CURATED BY PETER ELESY



RITA ACKERMANN • JULES DE BALINCOURT
CRAIG COSTELLO & NATHAN SMITH • ADAM CULJANOVIC
DEARRAINDORP • CHRISTA DONNER • NICOLE EISENMAN
DAZE ELLIS • GENTS OF DESIRE • TOLAND GRINNELL
ELLEN HARVEY • DAVID HUMPHREY • KATRIN JURATI
GREG LAMARICHE • MATT LEINES • ANDREW LENAUGHAN
ASHLEY MACOMBER • RYAN MCGINNIS • BILL McMULLEN
MORNING BREATH • JACK PIERSON • STEVE POWERS
DANA SCHUTZ • MATT SILVER • BRUB

NAMED FOR ONE OF THE FAMOUS AMUSEMENT PARKS OF Coney Island's heyday, *The Dreamland Artist Club* began in the spring of 2003 when artist Steve Powers, Creative Time, and "Mayor" Dick Zigan invited a group of artists and local businesses in Coney Island's amusement area to work together. *Dreamland* consists of more than twenty-five emerging and established artists who have repainted rides and created custom signs, murals, and scenic backdrops for a range of Coney Island attractions. As a long-time admirer of the fading craft of sign painting, Powers had looked for inspiration in the tradition of colorful, hand-painted signage and advertisements that date back more than a century in the community. "Coney Island," he said, "is the most beautiful place in New York City, and we are dedicated to keeping it that way." Like Powers, each of the participating artists has a personal, social, or aesthetic interest in the visual culture of the area; many live in Brooklyn or greater New York, though some have come from Chicago and Los Angeles to participate. The project makes no distinction between "fine artists" and "commercial artists"—categories that hold little value in this playground for the people. With few exceptions, the pieces comprising *Dreamland* have been created in the service of advertising for their host businesses, lending a new context to many of the artists whose works are usually viewed in galleries and museums. With a dramatic range of styles and practices, *Dreamland*'s offers a sampling of this era's artistry and imagination to Coney Island, and proposes a new model for creative urban revitalization strategies that both compliments and builds upon the existing character of this legendary New York neighborhood.

Anne Pasternak, Executive Director
Peter Elesy, Curator & Producer

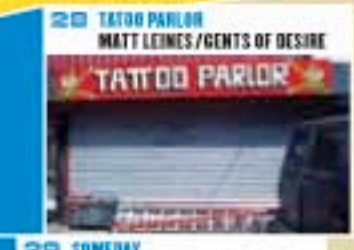
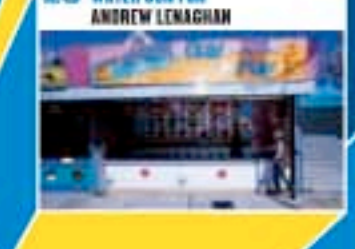
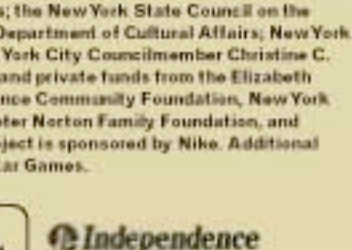
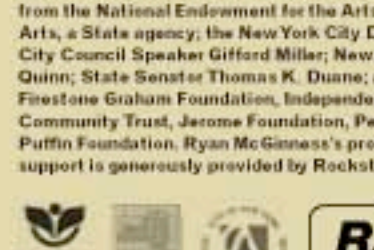
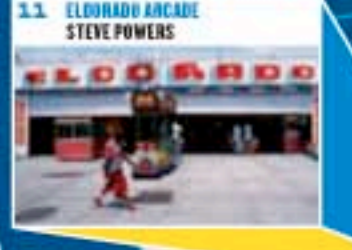
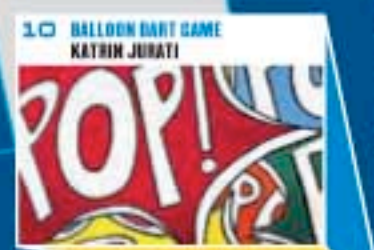
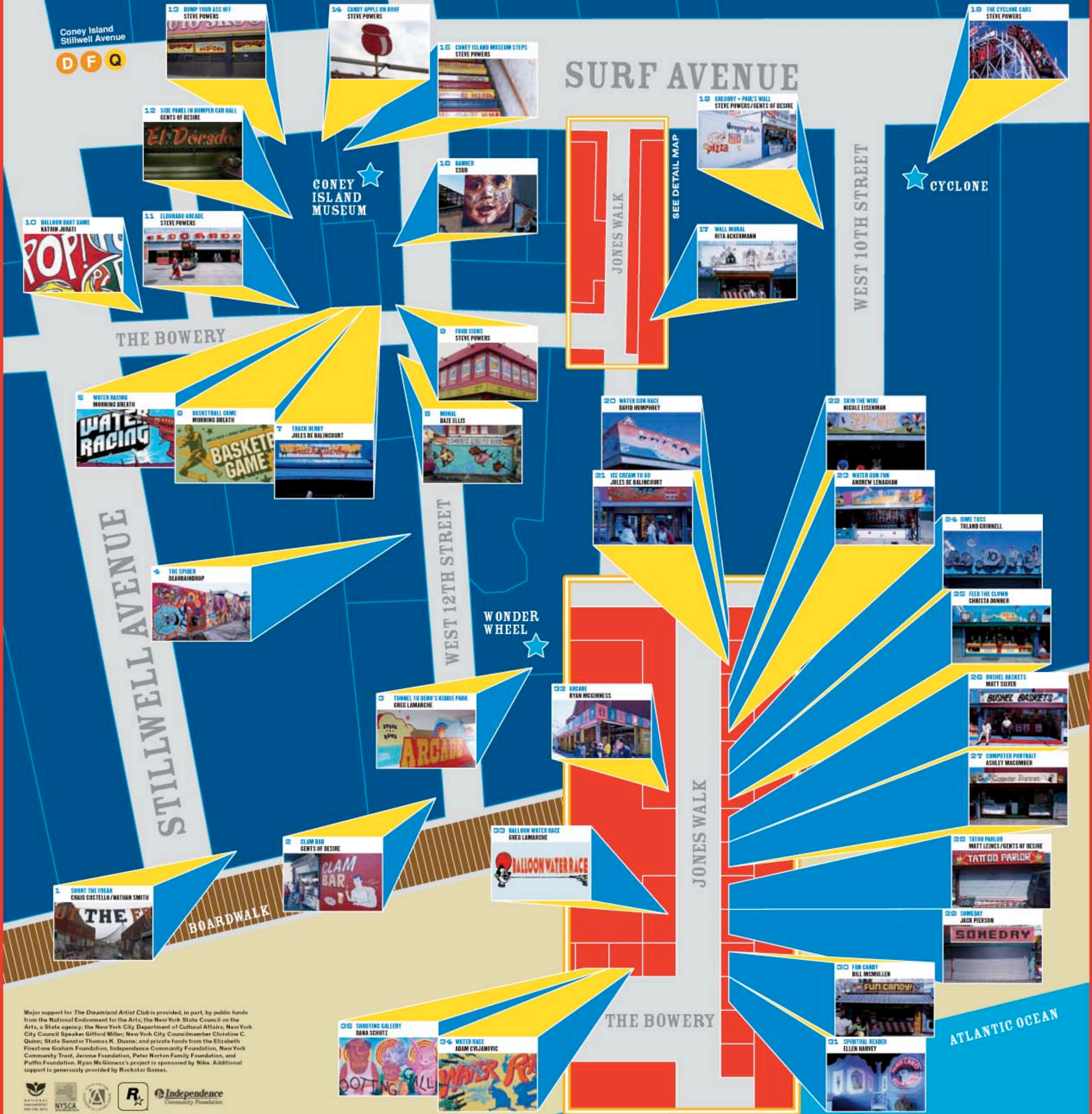
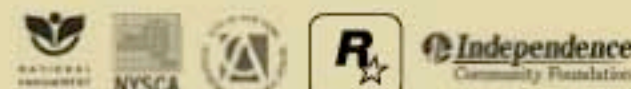
ABOUT CREATIVE TIME As New York City's most adventurous non-profit public arts presenter, Creative Time has taken arts of all disciplines virtually everywhere in the cityscape since the organization's inception in 1973. From projects in the landmark Brooklyn Bridge Anchorage and Times Square, to artist-designed skywriting, fire-works and *Tribute in Light*—the lauded temporary light memorial to September 11—Creative Time delights and provokes millions each year.

www.creativetime.org

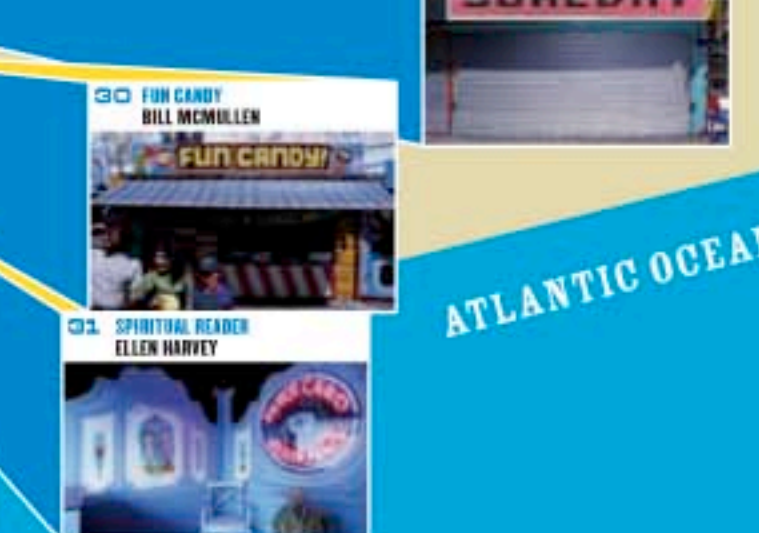
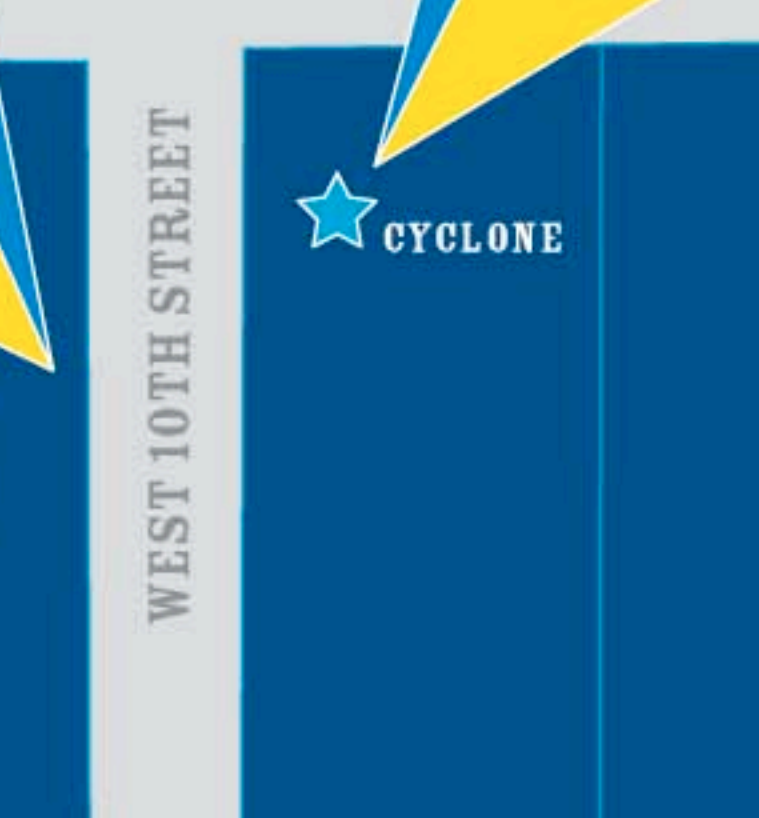
ABOUT CONEY ISLAND USA Dick Zigan founded Coney Island USA in 1990 as a resident arts organization located within Brooklyn's famed amusement park, with attractions such as the annual Mermaid Parade, Sideshow by the Seashore and the Coney Island Museum.

www.coneyisland.com

Major support for *The Dreamland Artist Club* is provided, in part, by public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts; the New York State Council on the Arts, a State agency; the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York City Council Speaker Gifford Miller; New York City Councilmember Christine C. Quinn; State Senator Thomas K. Duane; and private funds from the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation, Independence Community Foundation, New York Community Trust, Jerome Foundation, Peter Norton Family Foundation, and Puffin Foundation. Ryan McGinnis's project is sponsored by Nike. Additional support is generously provided by Rockstar Games.



SURF AVENUE



RYAN MCGINNIS (32) painted a 30-foot mural next to the Wonder Wheel sign on Jones Walk. Ackermann moved from Budapest to New York in 1981, where she is represented by Andra Rosen Gallery. She has been featured in numerous museum exhibitions in the United States, Japan and Europe. She is also a member of the band Angelbitch.

JULES DE BALINCOURT (3, 21) painted two marquees for his project—one for Ice Cream To Go on Jones Walk and the other for a truck dolly on the Bowery. Born in Paris, de Balincourt's sculptures and paintings have been exhibited in the United States and Europe. He lives and works in Brooklyn, and is represented by LFL Gallery, New York.

DAVID HUMPHREY (20) painted the backdrop and several signs for Shoot the Freak on Coney Island's famed Boardwalk. Costello's paintings and photographs have appeared in numerous publications, agencies in Paris and New York, and the *Beautiful Loser* exhibit at the CAC in Cincinnati. Smith's works were recently exhibited at Priksa Juska Fine Arts in Brooklyn. Both artists live in Brooklyn.

ADAM CULJANOVIC (34) created a marquee for a water race on the Bowery. Known for large-scale landscape paintings and other scenes, Culjanovic's works have been exhibited in group and solo exhibitions internationally. Culjanovic lives and works in Brooklyn, and is represented by Balwether Gallery, New York.

DEARRAINDORP (4) an artist collective consisting of Billy Grant, Laura Grant, Joe Grillo and Altko Heneshafl, painted a 30-foot backdrop and signs for the Spider ride on West 12th Street. The group has shown their work in Japan, Chicago and at John Connelly Presents, New York. They have a show at Daltch Projects, New York in July 2004.

CHRISTA DONNER (25), whose large-scale wall drawings, comic and workshops often explore issues of women's health and body image, painted a marquee for Feed the Clown on Jones Walk. Her work has been shown in several group and solo exhibitions. Donner lives in Chicago and is represented by Kravets-Walby Gallery, New York.

NICOLE EISENMAN (22) makes drawings, paintings, and large-scale murals. For *Dreamland*, she painted a marquee for Skin the Wire on Jones Walk. Eisenman is a Guggenheim Foundation fellow and has works in many major museum collections. She shows with the Leo Koenig Gallery, New York, where she recently presented *Etzaviv*.

DAZE ELLIS (3), who painted a mural on the back of Lambos Quality Food on the corner of West 12th Street and the Bowery, began writing graffiti in the mid '70s. He has exhibited around the world and has work in several public collections, including The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Ellis lives and works in New York.

GENTS OF DESIRE (2, 15, 16, 28), Los Angeles-based Jonathan Bleser (FINN) and Alexis Ross (DOOM), painted the Clam Bar on West 12th Street at the Boardwalk and lettered inside the Eldorado Bumper Car bar. They also collaborated with Matt Leines on the tattoo parlor marquee on Jones Walk and with Steve Powers on Gregory + Paul's wall at West 10th Street and Surf Avenue.

TOLAND GRINNELL (24), a Brooklyn native with a childhood passion for Coney Island, created a sign for the Dime Toss on Jones Walk. Grinnell has participated in numerous group and solo exhibitions in New York, where he is represented by the Mary Boone Gallery, as well as throughout Europe.

ELLEN HARVEY (31), a New York-based English artist, painted a custom interior and marquee for the spiritual reader's booth on Jones Walk. Harvey has exhibited extensively throughout the United States and Europe, and created numerous public projects, including *The New York Beautification Project*. Harvey is represented by millerbach gallery, Berlin.

DAVID HUMPHREY (20) painted the marquee for the water gun race on the corner of Surf Avenue and Jones Walk. Humphrey, also a curator and occasional critic, has exhibited throughout the United States and Europe, and his work is in several public collections. Humphrey lives and works in New York, where he is represented by Brent Sikkema Gallery.

KATRIN JURATI (10), a Los Angeles-based artist, painted the marquee for the balloon dart game on the Bowery. Her work is inspired by the narrative and comic juxtaposition of urban spaces. This year she has exhibited in Los Angeles, San Antonio and New York.

MATT LEINES (28), who paints, sculpts, and draws, collaborated with Gents of Desire on the marquee for the Jones Walk tattoo parlor. Leines lives and works in New Jersey, and is represented by New Image Art, Los Angeles. His work was recently featured in *Majority Whip* at White Box, New York.

ANDREW LENAUGHAN (20), a Brooklyn resident, painted the marquee for a water gun race on Jones Walk. Lenaughan has participated in group exhibitions throughout the United States, and has had solo exhibitions at the George Adams Gallery, New York.

ASHLEY MACOMBER (27) painted a sign for a computer portrait booth on Jones Walk. Macomber has been included in several group exhibitions and has been featured in *Fraud and Loyal* magazines. She had a solo show at New Image Art, Los Angeles, and has an upcoming solo show at Verdano Gallery, Chicago.

RYAN MCGINNIS (32), a New York-based artist, created a 30-foot marquee with 30 different signs for an arcade on the corner of Surf Avenue and Jones Walk. McGinnis has exhibited throughout the United States, Europe and Asia, and shows with Dutch Projects, New York. His project is generously sponsored by Nike.

BILL McMULLEN (30), who designed several of the promotional materials for *Dreamland*, painted the sign for Fun Candy on Jones Walk. McMullen was an Art Director at Def Jam Records and is a co-owner of SweatNYC, a clothing and product line. McMullen regularly designs for clients including The Beastie Boys, Criterion Collection and MTV.

MORNING BREATH (5, 6) (Doug Cunningham and Jason Noto) painted two marquees on the Bowery. These 204 Grams + Avedis notions have shown in the United States and abroad, and have been featured in numerous magazines. Cunningham created a children's book and an animated film that premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Noto has produced work for clients including Dreamworks, Intarscope, and Island Def Jam Records.

JACK PIERSON (29) created the sign *SOMEDAY* for Jones Walk. Pierson, who lives and works in New York and California, has been the subject of museum shows at the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Sprengel Museum, Germany, among others. He was included in the 2004 Whitney Biennial and is represented by Chem & Read, New York and Regen Projects, Los Angeles.

STEVE POWERS (1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19), who conceived of *Dreamland*, created signs for numerous venues in the amusement area and painted the cars of the Cyclone rollercoaster. Powers authored *The Art of Getting Over*, and was represented in the 2001 Venice Biennale and the Liverpool Biennial, 2002. In July 2004, an exhibit of his work will be at Daltch Projects, New York.

DANA SCHUTZ (35) painted two large signs for the Shooting Gallery on the Bowery. Schutz, who lives in New York and is represented by LFL Gallery, has had solo shows of her work in Cleveland, Boston and Paris.

MATT SILVER (26), an unemployed sign writer from Brooklyn, painted the Bushel Baskets sign on Jones Walk.

BRUB (36) (Ruslan Maralini) is an artist and designer who shows his work internationally. For *Dreamland*, BRUB created pieces on West 12th Street above Puzzles Bar and the Coney Island Museum. BRUB also designs for both the fashion and music industries, in addition to curating several artist exhibitions.

Our deepest thanks are due to the artists, business owners and operators who each took a chance by participating in *The Dreamland Artist Club*, which happened only because of their commitment and generosity. Creative Time especially thanks "Mayor" Dick Zigan. Many people, however, helped realize the project. Please visit www.creativetime.org for a more complete list of supporters and contributors.

To purchase Club T-shirts designed by Jules de Balincourt, Greg Lamariche, Ryan McGinnis, and Steve Powers, visit the Coney Island Museum (138 Surf Avenue) or www.creativetime.org.

This publication is underwritten by the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation.

Project Producer: Alexa Coyne
Photography: Charlesamels.com
Poster Photography: Pam Krishnamurthy
Graphic Design: Project Projects, www.projectprojects.com

LOVE CONEY ISLAND—PLEASE PATRONIZE PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES