

## COVER ART:

### ***Pode Bal Paints Western Masters***

17. 01. 2007 – 16. 03. 2007

Opening reception and premiere of Yves Klein's

**Anthropometry!**

16. 01. 2006 at 6 p.m.

**Kamenická 22, Praha 7- Letná**

opening hours: Tues. – Fri. from 12 noon – 5 pm  
(or by appointment on tel.: 233 376 259 / e-mail: [info@huntkastner.com](mailto:info@huntkastner.com))

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**hunt kastner artworks** presents the Czech art collective **Pode Bal** and their new interpretation of Western art. The group will introduce works by masters such as Gerhard Richter (*Townscape* from 1969), Gary Hume (*Cerith* from 1998), Georg Baselitz (*Les Jeunes filles d'Olmo II* from 1981), Andy Warhol (*Camouflage Painting* from 1996), Martin Kippenberger (an untitled painting dating from 1989/90) and Donald Baechler (*Lux N.2* from 1998). The public will have the chance to enjoy these original interpretations both in the gallery as well as on compact disc. Not to be missed are, for example, *LSD* (2000) by Damien Hirst, Joseph Beuys' *Sled* (1969), or *Anthropometry* (1960) by Yves Klein, which Pode Bal will perform live on January 16th at the opening of the exhibition. The entire Pode Bal essential **Cover Art** collection is available for sale, including all original interpretations and a special limited edition series of CDs and posters.

**Pode Bal**, the creative artist collective founded in 1997, has been credited for "re-politicizing the art scene" in the Czech Republic. Known for their highly satirical and biting social-political commentary on current affairs and taboo subjects, their works have initiated lively public discussions about sensitive issues such as lustration (*Malík urní: Gen Gallery of Established Nomenclature*, 2000, Václav Špála gallery), the Benes Decrees (*TGM Chicken*, MXM Gallery, 1999; *Lidé lidem* and *Zimmer Frei*, 2002, Politik-um exhibition at Prague Castle), the cultural policy of the National Gallery (*Brick: Institutionalized Art*, guerilla action at the Veletržní palace, 2002), globalization and religious fundamentalism (*Converse*, 2005, Prague Biennale), or collective national memory and accountability (*Flagelan-Tshirts*, 2005 and *Flagelanti*, Art Wall Gallery, 2006). In their new project, Pode Bal now direct their focus on the artist and the creative artistic impulse.

*"In music, there are original artists and cover artists. Not everyone can be an original. This is partly because of a dearth of talent and partly for economic reasons - so many original artists could simply not be sustained.*

*Interpretive art allows for resuscitation as well as self-realization. Jindřich Chalupecký remarked that in the Czech lands, rare has been the strong, significant artistic act in these modern times. In place of this, however, Czech artists have interestingly developed, enriched, cultivated and interpreted the artistic impulses coming from elsewhere. Today, we proudly say that Czech architectural cubism has no equivalent in the world. And this is true - nowhere but here had anyone even thought to transfer this artistic triumph to brick and mortar.*

*We don't want to be among those that complain that Czech art has no prestige in the world, or to envy the Polish presence on the Western art market. Instead, we have decided to crash into the Wet as interpreters and present you with the concept of Cover Art: a Podebalesque cover-version of world art."*

Pode Bal, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006