

# RYAN LEE

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RLWindow

**Luisa Rabbia**

*A Matter of Life*

February 2 - February 22, 2016

On view daily 2pm-midnight

RYAN LEE is pleased to present *A Matter of Life* (2003), a video by Luisa Rabbia of a man consuming a meal. The film begins with the older man, wearing a tweed jacket in a simple kitchen, eating with a spoon. When he removes the spoon from his mouth, so too comes a colorful drawing of an organ. As the video carries on, Rabbia draws several situations: tears falling down from the man's eyes, foliage growing out of his ears, a sun that rises from his shoulder slowly reshaped into a moon.

In this approximately three minute long video, conceived to be played in a loop, the digestion of a simple meal becomes a metaphor for an emotional transmutation. Luisa Rabbia's practice is rooted in drawing, but extends into a dialogue with painting, video, and sculpture. In her work she employs the human form to express existential themes, using personal and social experiences to reflect on the interconnectivity of all beings. *A Matter of Life* has been previously screened at Massimo Audiello Gallery, New York, and Rossana Ciocca Contemporanea in Milan (both in 2004) and at Gallery of Modern Art in S.Gimignano, SI, Italy in 2005.

Luisa Rabbia (b.1970, Pinerolo, Turin, Italy) pursued her artistic study in Turin, where she lived and worked until moving to New York in 2000. Solo exhibitions of her work have been realized at: Fundación PROA, Buenos Aires; Fondazione Merz, Torino; Fondazione Querini Stampalia, Venezia; Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston; Gallery of Modern Art, S.Gimignano, SI, Italy. Notable group exhibitions were held at Shirley Fiterman Art Center, New York; National Academy Museum, New York; Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, Harvard University, Cambridge; Museo del Novecento, Milano; MAGA, Museo Arte Gallarate, VA, Italy; Museo MAXXI, Roma; Shanghai Museum of Contemporary Art, Shanghai. In the 2013-2014 academic year, she was the visiting professor for drawing at Harvard University. Luisa Rabbia's work is represented by Peter Blum Gallery, New York.

RLWindow is a dedicated exhibition space featuring video, installation, and performance art designed to engage High Line visitors, viewable from the elevated park at 26th Street. Capitalizing on the gallery's position overlooking the High Line and its visibility to almost 5 million yearly visitors, RLWindow shows innovative, experimental, and collaborative projects by international, contemporary artists, including invited and gallery-represented artists. Forthcoming projects include work by **Josh Dorman**, **Chitra Ganesh**, **Simone Leigh**, **Stephanie Syjuco**, and more.

Concurrently on view is **Sangbin IM: Collection** (Jan 7-Feb 20, 2016). Forthcoming exhibitions include **Emma Amos: True Colors** (Feb 25-April 2), **Tim Braden**, and **Stephanie Syjuco**, both on view Apr 7-May 14. For press inquiries, contact Courtney Willis Blair at 212-397-0742 or [courtney@ryanleegallery.com](mailto:courtney@ryanleegallery.com).

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