

RICHARD  
GRAY  
GALLERY

NO LONGER

EMPTY

For Immediate Release

**POLITICS OF LIGHT**  
**JAN TICHY**

*Presented by Richard Gray Gallery and No Longer Empty*  
October 10 – December 14, 2013  
196 Stanton Street, Lower East Side, New York, NY 10002  
[richardgraygallery.com](http://richardgraygallery.com)    [nolongerempty.org](http://nolongerempty.org)

OPENING RECEPTION    October 10, 6 – 8pm  
EXHIBITION HOURS    Wednesday – Saturday, 2 – 7pm

ARTIST TALK    November 9, 5pm

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PRESENTERS    Richard Gray Gallery: Jen Rohr | [jrohr@richardgraygallery.com](mailto:jrohr@richardgraygallery.com) | 917.318.7104  
No Longer Empty: Manon Slome | [manon@nolongerempty.org](mailto:manon@nolongerempty.org) | 917.916.9580

(October 1, 2013 NY, NY) Richard Gray Gallery and No Longer Empty are pleased to announce *Politics of Light*, the first NY solo exhibition of single-channel videos, digital light/sculpture installations and site-specific work by Jan Tichy. At a time when issues of surveillance, privacy, and abuse of power are dominating the media and private communications, the exhibition investigates the ebbs and flows of what light reveals and what darkness hides. The artist's moody paean to light and shadow transforms the 5,400 square foot raw space into physical and psychic zones, neither fictional nor imaginary, evoking a range of human emotions and emphasizing site and architecture's implications for social structure. An opening reception for the public will be held October 10 from 6:00-8:00pm; the work remains on view through December 14, 2013.

*Politics of Light* features seven projects centered around *Installation No. 18* a new site-specific installation around the physical conditions of the raw commercial space at 196 Stanton Street.

*1391* is a 3D architectural paper model of a secret prison located on a military base in Israel close to the Palestine border. Tichy's re-creation, based on Internet research, is not officially acknowledged, not visible on any map, erased from aerial photographs, and often referred to as Israel's Guantánamo. A fake shadow is projected to fit the paper model and to create the illusion of day and night, time passing. The work explores issues of concealment and responsibility upon revelation.

*Project Cabrini Green (feed)* documents a project Tichy created around the demolition of the final building of a public housing complex, Cabrini Green, in Chicago. The demolition marked yet another painful phase in the site's history of slum clearance and rebuilding, each cycle characterizing the

city housing authority's current approach to housing or displacing the poor. (A Target store is now scheduled to open on this publicly owned land.) Tichy's community-based project used a computer program to translate audio of the resident youth's poems- on home and community and the demolition - into projected light patterns using 134 LED lights placed in each apartment of the building. As the building was razed, the lights were demolished along with the building. *Project Cabrini Green (feed)*, 2011 is 700 hours of video footage taken from March 28 – May 5, 2011. The footage was available online ([www.projectcabinigreen.org](http://www.projectcabinigreen.org)) and at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. Tens of thousands of people have seen this tribute to the many lives affected by the dislocation. The video footage, some surviving light boxes, and the model of Cabrini Green will be shown together with access to the interactive website at the exhibition.

Other installations on view include *100 Raw* (2008), *Installation No. 6 (tubes)* (2008), *Pictures* (2007), and *Recess* (2009), a single vantage exposure of a public school playground that reveals a rather chilling view of the range of human emotions exhibited by children at play.

The exhibition is jointly organized by the public art organization No Longer Empty and Richard Gray Gallery who represents Jan Tichy. "I was particularly pleased," says curator and founder of No Longer Empty, Manon Slome, "when I was approached by the gallery about collaborating on this project. I had wanted to work with Jan for many years now, and this seemed a perfect opportunity. The project marks the beginning of a new series called 'NLE presents' which, in contrast to our more site-specific group and thematic exhibitions, will focus on solo shows for artists whose work we would like to present in-depth. With his emphasis on site and architecture and its implications for social structure, Jan's work is an excellent way to begin this series."

#### PUBLIC PROGRAMS

**Artist Talk:** November 9, 5pm

Jan Tichy talks with Nicola Trezzi, U.S. editor of Flash Art, and Mabel Wilson, the Nancy and George E. Rupp Professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.

**Children/ Youth Workshop: BYOL (Build Your Own Light):** November 22 and 23

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about light and visual presentation through discussion and a walk-through of the exhibition, followed by this hands-on paper model building and LED lighting activity. Each participant to leave with a small lit paper house/sculpture.

#### ABOUT THE ARTIST

Jan Tichy (b. 1974, Prague) is an Israeli artist who lives and works in Chicago. His previous solo exhibitions include *MATRIX 164*, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT (2012); *1979:1-2012:21*, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago (2012); *01:37:24:05*, The Center for Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv (2010); and *12\*12*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (2008). His works are included in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York (MoMA), Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall Collection, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, and Israel Museum, Jerusalem. Tichy is the recipient of the Gottesdiener Israeli Art Prize, 2010.

#### ABOUT NO LONGER EMPTY

Founded in 2009 as a response to vacancies created by the financial crisis, No Longer Empty has since evolved to be a dynamic and galvanizing cultural force in New York City.

Through combining the vitality of the contemporary art world with the values of building community, No Longer Empty presents a new paradigm for public art practice.

With 14 exhibitions in four years, NLE has revived the history of spaces such as the iconic Tower Records store, the officers' homes on Governors Island, an old belt factory in Brooklyn, and the Andrew Freedman Home in the Bronx. Each site was transformed into a hub of art, culture, and education, catalyzing real and sustainable social change in neighborhoods and communities across New York. More information at [www.nolongerempty.org](http://www.nolongerempty.org).

#### ABOUT RICHARD GRAY GALLERY

Founded in Chicago in 1963 and now located both in Chicago and New York, Richard Gray Gallery is one of the leading dealers in modern and contemporary art, with private and institutional clients worldwide. For fifty years, the gallery has represented both internationally recognized and mid-career living artists. In addition to the Contemporary program, Richard Gray Gallery curates museum-quality historical exhibitions with works by some of the most influential artists in modern and contemporary art. For more information, please visit our website at [www.richardgraygallery.com](http://www.richardgraygallery.com).

***196 Stanton Street has been generously donated for the project by Jack Noy of Helm Management.***