

LOIS LAMBERT GALLERY

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Misc. Pippa Garner “Car Sick” November 12 2011 - January 1, 2012

Pippa Garner, formerly Philip Garner, began her career as a performance artist in California in the seventies. She is known both for her restructured automotive sculpture made in the same era as well as her repurposed functional art. A backwards '59 Chevrolet she crafted for Esquire magazine caught the eye of the San Francisco collective Antfarm. Pippa and Chip Lord began collaborating, and they performed “Chevrolet Training Film” at the Whitney Museum of American Art in 1980. Shortly thereafter her pieces were shown at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles in two shows focusing on the car culture of the city.

In the early eighties Pippa published her most well known work, “Philip Garner’s Better Living Catalog,” a humorous commentary on consumerism. Subsequently she published two more books (“Utopia” and “Gadgets and Gizmos”). In the mid eighties she became her own art project and transitioned from Philip Garner into Pippa Garner. This was an ‘ongoing performance/ installation’ that continued into the mid-nineties and in 1993 she was asked to sign an affidavit not to take her shirt off in public.

Pippa Garner is still a working artist. “Car Sick” includes both Pippa’s past and present work, but focuses on the original humorous car drawings she made for Los Angeles Magazine and Car & Driver over the last three decades.