

George Stoll: *newspaper in the comics*  
October 21–November 25, 2006  
Opening reception Saturday, October 21 6-8 pm

LightBox is pleased to present 22 drawings selected from George Stoll's latest project, *newspaper in the comics*. The works show a precarious balance between Stoll's trademark precision of maintaining an index of a daily practice against highlighting objects that are considered disposable. Well known for his wry facsimiles of Tupperware cups and toilet paper rolls, in this project, the images contained in the comics' section of a daily paper are isolated and examined.

Bruce Hainley wrote in February 2005 for *Artforum* about Stoll's *Thinking of Christmas* "Stoll probes, areas of culture... that are super-abundant but generally dismissed as beneath serious consideration. He mines the holiday with the surest, most economic magic for almost totemic results." This statement could apply as well to George Stoll's adept handling of content and materials for *newspaper in the comics*.

Over a two-year span, Stoll followed the comics' section of the *LA Times* noting when and where newspapers showed up as props in the individual comics, thusly acting as an archivist collecting source material. By tracing the source materials and arranging them into a pile-up of images, he keeps a running statistic of the papers drawn by someone else, while at same time acting as a supreme draftsman himself.

Subtly iconic, the comics' section is a breathing space in a daily paper increasingly full of news of wars, crimes, deficit, political and global strife. This is not to say that the comics are innocuous. Aside from the front page and the editorial section, the comics are integral in establishing the nature of the daily paper itself. Some forces would render the fourth estate powerless and obsolete. Stoll, by virtue of admitting to deconstructing a part of a daily paper, asserts that a free and unencumbered press has a place in today's society, even if it is a vehicle from which to glean moments of insight from *Peanuts*.

George Stoll lives and works in Los Angeles. For images or additional information please contact Kim Light or Christine Nichols. **Gallery hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays 11am -6pm.**