

For the blind man...

MARIANA CASTILLO DEBALL



A common appearance in Mariana Castillo Deball's Mexican hometown, a piñata is often used for special occasions and celebrations. We enjoy it only when we don't know what it contains: once a group of blindfolded players break it open to reveal and release the assorted candies inside, the piñata ceases to be an object of interest, as if curiosity had indeed killed the cat. For a game that twists back on itself, Deball chooses a shape that does the same: a Klein bottle. A topological form possible only in a hypothetical two-dimension space, a Klein bottle is to a sphere what a Möbius strip is to a circle, an object whose outside is indistinguishable from its inside, with both forming one uninterrupted surface. To mark the end of the exhibition, please come back on the last day and help us break it apart.

(Sept. 11, 2009 –Jan. 3, 2010)

Mariana Castillo Deball was born in 1975 in Mexico City, and she lives and works in Amsterdam and Berlin. She has held solo exhibitions at De Appel, Amsterdam; Museum of Contemporary Art Carrillo Gil, México City; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; Marres Center For Contemporary Art, Maastricht; and the Jan van Eyck Academie, Maastricht. Deball has exhibited at institutions throughout Europe and North America including Sala de Arte Público Siqueiros, México DF; Heidelberg Kunstverein; MUCA CU, México City; Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, Miami; BAK, Utrecht; Baltic International Center for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, UK; and the Museum of Modern Art, México City; among others.

Image:

*Klein bottle piñata, 2009*

Paper mâché, approx. 9 x 6 x 6 feet

Courtesy of the artist