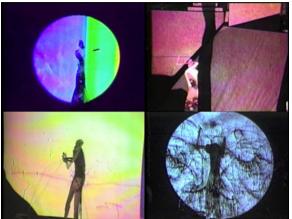
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Tom Thayer, Puppetry video for performance, 2010, mixed media

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **Tom Thayer Scenographic Play** 13 January – 29 January 2011

TRACY WILLIAMS, Ltd. is pleased to announce *Tom Thayer: Scenographic Play*, featuring two evening performances followed by an exhibition of props, videos, and sculptures relating to the performances. This is Tom Thayer's first project with the gallery.

Using animation, puppetry, live performers, and music, Tom Thayer transports his audience to his curious and offbeat world. Thayer often layers unusual sound and visual collages to create phantasmagoric animations, employing obsolete audiovisual technologies and naïve art-making materials, such as construction paper, cardboard, and string. Recalling the 1970s "Learning by Discovery" education model where learning was thought to be incubated by posing abstract, ontological questions to children while submerging them in stimulating, brightly colored environments, Thayer's work intimates personal histories and fantasies while creating a universally engaging experience. With his collaborative performances, Thayer congregates students, artists, friends, and family members to participate in surreal games and musical and theatrical performances to explore "the creative power of collective action."

## **PERFORMANCES:**

Thursday, January 13, 2011, 7:30 pm Saturday, January 15, 2011, 7:30 pm

Tom Thayer is Professor of Painting, Drawing & Foundation and MFA Co-Director at City College of New York. Recent projects include: Dave Miko and Tom Thayer: *New World Pig*, The Kitchen, New York, NY: January 7 – March 5, 2011; *Betwixt & Between*, ARTSPACE, New Haven, CT, *Keith Connolly and Tom Thayer*, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, *Knight's Move*, SculptureCenter, Long Island City, NY; *Incohative Listening + Centerless Portrayal*, SculptureCenter, Long Island City, NY.