

Head: Kenny Scharf.
Torso: David Salle. Legs: Donald Baechler.
EXCLUSIVELY FOR MANHATTAN FILE.

the return of cadavre exquis

twelve famous and fledgling artists
revive the surrealist parlour game



"Exquisite Corpse:

game of folded paper consists in having several people compose a phrase or a drawing collectively, none of the participants having any idea of the nature of the preceding contribution. The now classic example, which gave its name to the game, is the first phrase obtained in this manner: the-exquisite-corpse-shall-drink-the-young-wine."

—from *Dictionnaire abrégé du surréalisme*, 1938.



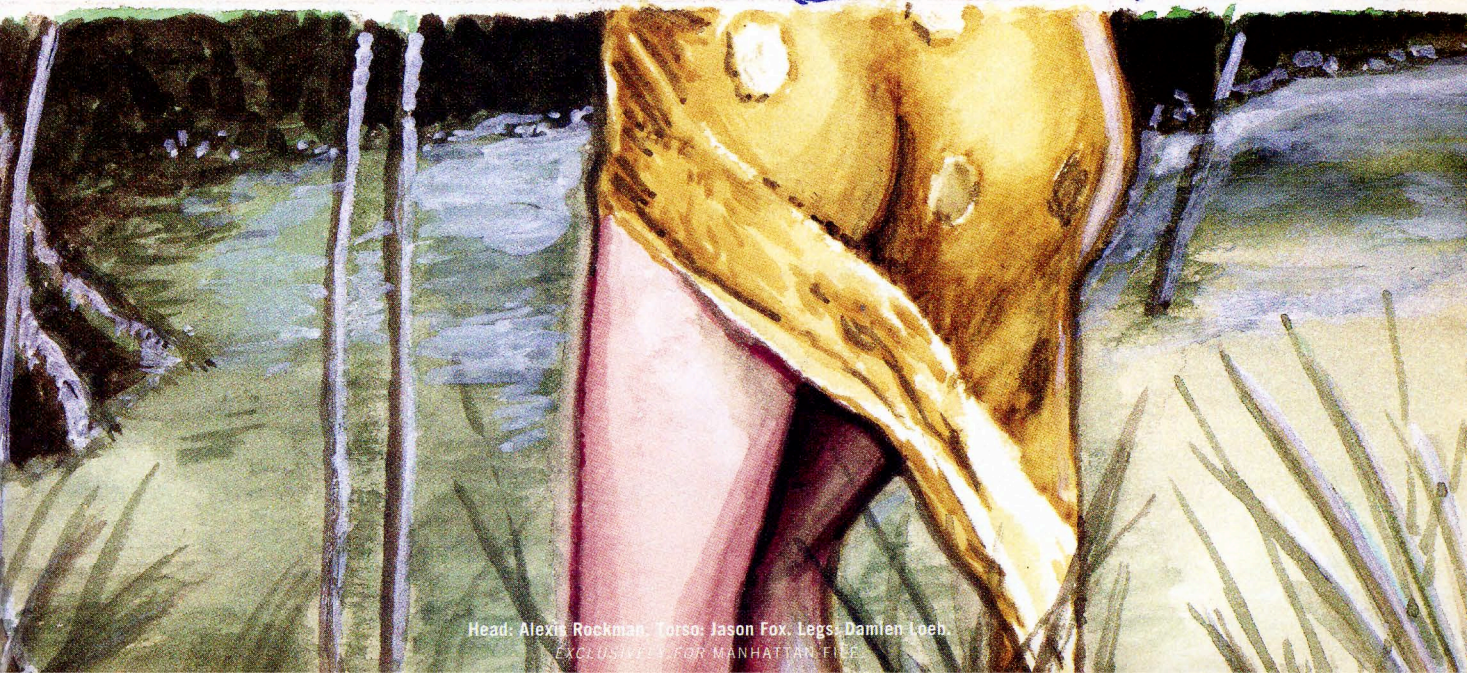
Head: George Baselitz. Torso: Brice Marden.
Legs: Mary Heilman, 1993.



Head: Dorthea Tanning. Torso: Ray Smith.
Legs: Francesco Clemente, 1993.

In the spirit of spring rebirth, we invited a dozen New York artists to play in this seventy-year-old parlour game. To surrealists, such as *Cadavre Exquis* originators André Breton and Yves Tanguy, it provided an irrational channeling for artistic imagination "outside of all aesthetic or moral pre-occupation." So wrote Breton in his *Manifeste du surréalisme*, 1924.

Revived as a group exhibition in 1991 by the Drawing Center in SoHo, the *Cadavre Exquis* has since attracted more than 600 collaborators from all over the world. In keeping with its tradition, all the artists whose work is included here responded to Breton's original appeal: "Speak according to the madness that has seduced you."



Head: Alexis Rockman, Torso: Jason Fox, Legs: Damien Loeb,
EXCLUSIVELY FOR MANHATTAN FILE



