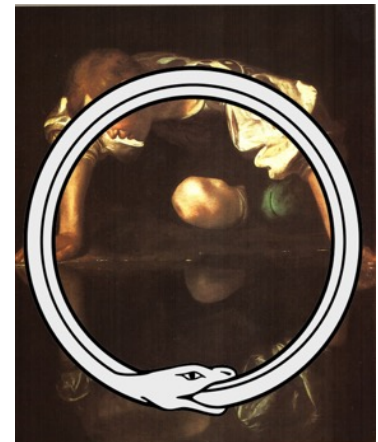




Cathouse history: Cathouse FUNeral opened its first show in November 2013, carved out from the viewing rooms of a former funeral home in East Williamsburg. The gallery was built from scratch by its founding director, David Dixon, and thereafter never really stopped being built, i.e., the space that began as a traditional white cube was never returned to its original white walls. Rather, the gallery was altered to fit the needs of each exhibition while also maintaining elements of design from earlier shows in the current ones. The gallery

became a collage, or temporal montage, as layers of walls were built over walls to preserve artists' murals, frescos, painting, et cetera. Consequently, the gallery itself took on material, sculptural form--the joke was always, "What are you going to do when the space is only three by three feet wide?"

This endgame, however, was never reached. The ex-funeral home building was sold in 2016 and operations were moved to 524 Project Space in Carroll Gardens where it was re-christened "Cathouse *Proper*" in light of this new space's especially well-appointed design. But before leaving the original FUNeral building, all the walls, including studs, were removed then reused and reconfigured for four distinct, itinerant, off-site group exhibitions in Bushwick, Chelsea, Lower East Side, and Beacon, NY. This instinct for preservation and transformation began early in the FUNeral program when, during deinstallation of the third show, the first of many "harvestings" (an architectural detail that is recognized, appropriated and preserved as a self-contained relic of the exhibition and its process) was produced.



It was while installing *Leaving Home: Cathouse FUNeral Migrates North* in Beacon that participating artist Davide Cantoni mirthfully quipped, "Oh, I get it, this is a solo-show with lots of other artists in it!", exposing fault lines in curatorial practice and notions of authorship that Cathouse FUNeral / Proper has often probed. Nevertheless, to date, at the end of our fifth year, Cathouse has produced thirty-seven solo and group exhibitions, as well as twenty-eight events, with well over one hundred artists shown. Thank you to you all for all, no doubt this has been an inspired and inspiring five years!

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Friday - Sunday, 12-6PM