

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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Media Contact: Charlie James

[Charlie@cjamesgallery.com](mailto:Charlie@cjamesgallery.com)

213.687.0844

Charlie James Gallery is delighted to present the exhibition:

**DANIELA COMANI**

***MY FILM HISTORY – DANIELA COMANI'S TOP 100 FILMS***

**JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> TO FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>**

**ARTIST'S RECEPTION JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> FROM 6-9PM**

**Charlie James Gallery** is pleased to present *My Film History – Daniela Comani's Top 100 Films*, a solo exhibition of Berlin-based artist Daniela Comani. This is Comani's second solo show with the gallery.

In response to canonical lists like the *AFI Top 100*, Daniela Comani has created her own list of timeless film masterpieces, and illustrated that list with the movie posters for each film. In **Daniela Comani's Top 100 Films**, however, gender assignments are reversed: Bunuel's *Belle de Jour* becomes *Beau du Jour*, and Catherine Deneuve is suddenly mustachioed. *All the President's Men* becomes *All The President's Women*, the lovely Dustin Hoffman and Robert Redford now wear red lipstick. Comani intends the series to unfold slowly, one by one, like a wave of historical reversals. At first glance a witty feminist subversion, collectively the pieces drive moments of recognition of where woman exist in film history, and where they do not. Film narratives are reconsidered along gender lines – what if the *Godfather* was a woman, or Almodovar's *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* were men? This kind of detournement is typical of Comani's practice: In previous projects she has applied her subversive touch to the Western

literary canon, to contemporary European magazines like Der Spiegel, and to the key events of the twentieth century.

**Daniela Comani** was born in Bologna, Italy in 1965; she lives and works in Berlin, Germany. Comani's multimedia installations engage in a dialogue about history, language, identity, alienation and intimacy. Her work focuses on media images and text, which she manipulates through photography and video, and combines in her drawings and installations. Her work has been shown internationally, including the Museo d'Arte Moderna, Bologna and the 54th Venice Biennale . She is included in the collections of Museum on the Seam, Jerusalem; Museo d'Arte Moderna, Bologna; and Kupferstichkabinett, Berlin.