The 8th Floor
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Curated by Rachel Perera Weingeist
September 10th – November 7th, 2014
The 8th Floor
www.the8thfloor.org
Tuesday – Thursday 11am – 6pm
Friday 10am – 5pm

The 8th Floor is pleased to announce our fall exhibition Stainless: One of a Kind, featuring work by the Havana-based artist collective formed by José Capaz, Roberto Fabelo Hung and Alejandro Piñeiro. For their first solo-show in the United States, Stainless drew inspiration from their experiences in New York during the summer of 2014 to transform The 8th Floor into an enveloping installation that reflects their attitudes towards success, individualism, and uniqueness in contemporary art, as well as the rapidly changing manner of its consumption. Featuring an essay by Ted Henken, One of a Kind illuminates the practices of contemporary Cuban artists in reaction to the rapidly changing economic landscape on the island.

From the style of their work to the methods of its production, Stainless represents a new crop of artists, educated by the island’s premier art schools and trained in a market-conscious manner. Founded in 2010, Stainless emerged organically while its three members shared a studio after their graduation from the San Alejandro Academy of Fine Arts in Havana. With their refined aesthetic and concept-based creations, Stainless targets a global audience familiar with postmodern tactics, indicating the expanded opportunities available to contemporary Cuban artists. Their exposure to the international art market, as well as their access to new materials and systems is a privilege that artists from previous generations could only acquire after decades of success.

“The art in this uniquely immersive exhibition seeks to blur if not erase completely the line that separates the artists from their public, inviting viewers to become co-creators of a joint artistic and conceptual experience or “performance” that subverts the idea of what is unique or precious.”

- Ted Henken, July 2014
The title of their exhibition, *One of a Kind*, satirically references Stainless’ current methods of production and re-creation, which intend to undermine the concept of artistic singularity. Many works are first painted by the artists, then photographed, printed, and displayed as one of an unknown number of copies, rather than as a singular, inimitable art-object. The group utilizes a variety of media to assist this idea, including painting, drawing, video, and wallpaper.

The 8th Floor is a private exhibition space established to promote cultural and philanthropic initiatives. Opened in 2010, recent shows have primarily focused on the presentation of contemporary Cuban art under the direction of curator Rachel Perera Weingeist, and with partners in Cuba. The 8th Floor is free and open to the public. Schools groups are encouraged: viewing hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 11am – 6pm and Friday 10am – 5pm.

For more information about the exhibition, or to request press images, please contact Anjuli Nanda, ananda@the8thfloor.org or (646) 738-3988