Boone, NC—October 24, 2011—Catherine J. Smith Gallery (CSG) at Appalachian State University is proud to present an all day video screening and evening lecture by multi-disciplinary artist and curator Lee Walton. Often describing himself as an “experimental artist,” Walton’s work blurs the boundary between art and life. The exhibition will be on view in CSG on Wednesday, Nov. 2 from 10 AM – 5 PM. Walton’s lecture will follow at 7 PM and take place at the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts (TCVA) lecture hall in Boone, NC. These events are free and open to the public.

While Walton employs a diverse range of concepts and media, he finds and makes art within everyday activities. His performances in particular frequently embrace participatory collaboration and allow viewers to visualize situations in ways that are often overlooked. In his series entitled *Momentary Performances*, Walton choreographed scenes in the streets of Atlanta and Minnesota. Wall vinyl text installed on site described what would happen and when the event was to take place, with statements such as “Friday, September 25, 6 PM, Person wearing a white hat stops to eat a PB and J sandwich.” A recent project, *Go Ask Marsha*, encourages volunteers to ask Marsha Thompson, Security Officer at the
Weatherspoon Art Museum in Greensboro, NC, how to unlock the artwork at hand, upon which she provided three clues that reveal the next step participants must take, sending them on a performative search for the work in which they are a part. Because these events are fleeting, many of Walton’s works exist today through video documentation. His one-day film exhibition at CSG offers the community a chance to look in on what has happened and anticipate what is to come.

Catherine Smith Gallery director states, “This weekend Lee Walton and Jon Rubin will be orchestrating a performative work with a marching band on the streets of Denver. Walton and Rubin will be engaging with the social dynamics of a downtown neighborhood in a unique way and I am looking forward to seeing documentation and learning how this project impacted the daily activities of people who work and live in this area.”

Walton is also a founding director of The Super G: Experiential Residency Program, an intensive three-week residency that invites thinkers and practitioners to collectively develop projects that are directed towards the production of “experience.” The residency takes place within the Super G Mart, a 75,000 square foot international supermarket and public flea market. Residents are given a 144 square foot space within the flea market to use and transform in any way wish. This space can act as a central hub for exploring the Super G, an actual site for social engagement, a temporary resource for the public, or simply a place to sit and do nothing. More information on this project can be found at http://supergresidency.com/.

**EVENTS & PROGRAMS**
All programs are free and open to the public, and take place on the campus of Appalachian State University.

**Wednesday, November 2**
All day video exhibition by Lee Walton
CSG, 10 AM – 5 PM

Public Lecture by Multi-disciplinary artist and curator Lee Walton
TCVA Lecture Hall, 7 PM

**ABOUT THE ARTIST**
Lee Walton is a multi-disciplinary artist. His work is deeply rooted in conceptual, performance, and social practices, and ranges from printmaking, video, drawing, social architecture, public projects, web-based performances, and events. These works often involve collaboration with numerous participants and practitioners from diverse fields. Along with teaching as an Assistant Professor of Art at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Walton is an active curator, lecturer, and facilitator of
public events. He holds a Master of Fine Arts from the California College of the Arts and a Bachelor of Fine Art from San Jose State University.

Walton has received a number of commissions from museums, institutions, festivals, and cities, both nationally and internationally. His accolades include museum funded projects (Reykjavik Art Museum, Iceland; Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA; Rhizome at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, NY), public commissions (Flux Atlanta, Denver Public Art Council, SECCA, Art in General, Socrates Sculpture Park), national and international exhibitions (The Powerplant Gallery, Toronto, Canada; Performa '05, Island 6, Shanghai, China; The City Museum, Ljubljana, Slovenia), Honors (CAA Centennial, S.J. Truman Award), and collections (Martin Z. Margulies Warehouse, Miami, FL; Columbus Museum, Columbus, GA).

Images available upon request. An archive of Walton’s work is viewable online at www.leewalton.com.

The Catherine J. Smith Gallery is located in Farthing Auditorium at 733 Rivers Street, Boone, NC. Hours are Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM. Admission is free. Currently on view in the gallery “Sail!” featuring artwork by Jewel Castro. For information please call 828-262-7338 or visit www.art.appstate.edu/cjs.

The Turchin Center for the Visual Arts is located at 423 West King St., in Boone, NC. The museum is open Tuesday – Thursday and Saturday from 10 AM – 6 PM, and on Friday from 12 PM – 8 PM. Parking is available nearby on King St. and in the parking deck on College St. located behind the center. Call 828-262-3017 or visit www.tcva.org for more information.

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