

PEEP

1991 Ongoing

In the '90s I never watched Seinfeld. I hadn't yet been exposed/indoctrinated into their outlandish logic, selfishly hilarious antics, perverse humor. I missed out on the love phenomenon and "saved" Seinfeld for the massive rerun marathon that still permeates my TV rotation today. So it took me a long time to realize I was making things/installations that were part of the Seinfeld plot line. It was not Seinfeld, but privacy, that was my impetus . . . To examine the most private space of all, the bathroom, and the most public private space of all, the public bathroom, that thin barrier between users that doesn't shunt sound or smell, just the optical, visual sense, and what goes on on the other side, whatever kinda business that may be. That space, in my mind, needed to be breached, and there was a tool already in existence for just this measure: the peephole. It only needed reversing. Now the whole of bathroom business is no longer separated, and guessed at, surmised upon, hinted or skirted around. It is out there in the open. Only later did I find out Newman and Kramer had ideas about breaking down the in-between as well. (Seinfeld: The Reverse Peep-Hole, Season 9, Episode 12, 1997).