

ANOTHER WAY OF CATCHING IDEAS

TEXT MARK SANDERS
PHOTOGRAPHY COREY WALTER

Artist **JASON RHOADES** turns his studio into a giant artistic think tank.



has played during the *Black Pussy Harvests*. "I run these Harvests with my collaborator Alex Israel," says Jason. "He makes sure that we invite as diverse a crowd as possible to contribute to the project – personalities, film stars and people from the fashion and music worlds. I like the idea of the installation coming alive through the goodwill of its guests. The whole studio becomes like some giant charisma catcher that not only collects pussy names – I think we now have over 7,500 of them in total – but also adds a further performance element to the work."

Jason Rhoades's Los Angeles studio has in the past been home to huge collections of Scientology and space race paraphernalia, but his latest endeavour, the *Black Pussy Soirée Cabaret Macramé*, is his most ambitious project to date. Rhoades invited selected guests to a series of Thursday night events held every month for the first six months of this year. Dressed all in white, everyone was asked to contribute names for the female genitalia and help knot rope into a giant macramé sculpture.

destroyed. Only a single Mecca vulva remains on the outside corner of the stone. You can still see it today."

Rhoades's studio in Silver Lake is an Aladdin's cave of strange artefacts, including ultraviolet neon signs detailing the harvested pussy names, hundreds of dream catchers and felt cowboy hats. Furnished



with Arabian sofas, a bar and a single bed, there's even a self-made "spukkake" (machine for ejaculating hot scented wax). There is also a stage for bands, and everyone from Jelvis (the Jewish Elvis) to a Bono impersonator with a flamenco guitar



JASON RHOADES'S BLACK PUSSY INSTALLATION WILL GO ON VIEW AT THE DAVID ZWIRNER GALLERY IN NEW YORK FROM NOVEMBER 13. TO CONTRIBUTE YOUR PREFERRED PUSSY NAME TO THIS ONGOING PROJECT PLEASE EMAIL JASON AT PUSSY@PUSSY.IS

