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PRESS RELEASE

# Apperceptions

Michael Donovan, Bruce Myren, Jake Saunders, Elizabeth Talbot, Erin Wiersma

26 May-20 June, 2009

Opening reception: 28 May 5-8pm.

Gallery hours: Tuesday-Saturday, noon-6pm. Admission is free.

**Soho 20 Gallery Chelsea** proudly presents *Apperceptions*, an exhibition of new work by recent graduates of The University of Connecticut Department of Art & Art History's MFA Program, featuring Michael Donovan, Bruce Myren, Jake Saunders, Elizabeth Talbot, Erin Wiersma.

It is the fate of every impression thus to fall into a mind preoccupied with memories, ideas, and interests, and by these it is taken in.

In this gradual process of interaction between the new and the old, not only is the new modified and determined by the particular sort of old which apperceives it, but the apperceiving mass, the old itself, is modified by the particular kind of new which it assimilates.

In this way, our conceptions are constantly dropping characters once supposed essential, and including others once supposed inadmissible.

- William James

**Michael Donovan** creates implements fixed in mid-function as absurd monuments. In each piece, steel and wood enact structural utility in useless states of permanence. Perpetually engaging tool with task, his sculptural objects become self-contained events.

**Bruce Myren** photographs the landscape according to invented rules based on arbitrary points of human measurement. His work ranges from documenting universally recognized notions associated with location to addressing more intimate connections with place and home.

**Jake Saunders** works in an array of media re-telling stories of notorious criminal events. Relying on multiplicity and variation, he interweaves possible scenarios of tragic tales, while exploring the nature of narrative and the ambiguous place between fact and fiction that every chronicle occupies.

**Elizabeth Talbot** invents a new reality through large-scale mixed media paintings. Emulating children's play, Talbot learns by way of exploration as she creates a fantastical land with its own language, offering expansive interpretations of existence.

**Erin Wiersma** seeks the intangible through works on paper and canvas, using her own being as a point of reference. While making her drawings and paintings, she attempts to experience and convey what T. S. Elliot describes as "a still point of the turning world."

**Directions to Soho20 Chelsea:** From Grand Central: Take #6 local (green line) to 23rd St. Cross Town Bus, or walk West on 23rd to 10th Ave. Cross over to 25th St. to the Whitehall Bldg between 10th & 11th on 25th. Alternately, take the C/E train to 23rd St. at 8th Ave. and walk to the Whitehall