

## PRESS RELEASE

Tyler Dobson  
Don't Stop Horsing Around  
Feb 7 – Feb 28, 2009

Opening Reception:  
Sat Feb 7, 6 – 9 PM

Real Fine Arts is pleased to present new work by Tyler Dobson.

Don't Stop Horsing Around is a tribute to art making. The show comprises several rough-hewn wooden sculptures, standing in various positions throughout the gallery, coupled with four IKEA lamps in the shape of humanlike figures. Dobson's sculptures riff on modernism, "bad painting" and contemporary design, as well as a kind of nascent spirituality, which is reiterated in their totemic forms. Their haphazard quality suggests a resistance against ideas of perfection and beauty.

The gallery becomes a theoretical cave, an arena where psychic desires and anguishes can manifest themselves alongside a more detached realm of the market. Brutally cut wooden sculptures, which stand like demented screens, mingle freely with humanoid lanterns, underscoring a comedic battle between high and low, and blurring the distinction between art and industrial production. The work as a whole becomes a zany meditation on the nature and use of creativity. The demands of institutional posturing are subjected to thorough mystifications and ambiguities.

The partially dyed or fully saturated constructions cancel each other out as the viewer navigates the gallery, creating a destabilizing effect which further complicates the aesthetic and conceptual underpinnings of the work. The space is charged with an ambivalent anarchy, like a terrorist decorator, Dobson tugs at the heart strings of expectation, and keeps the work hovering in a state of debauched reverie. The sculptures announce themselves forcefully, and their penchant for misbehaving flirts with the ramifications of failure. The space becomes a simulated showroom filled with degenerate furnishings.

Also on view are Dobson's collages, crafted from art world ephemera, referencing the process of altering materials as well as the synthesis of art and culture. With this series, the industry of art becomes conflated with various psychological signifiers and moody blobs of paint. These renderings usher in Dobson's narrative surrounding the tenuous relationship between creativity and commercialism.

Tyler Dobson was born in New Britain, CT in 1983. He received a BFA from Pratt Institute in 2006. He currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Don't Stop Horsing Around is his New York solo debut.