

GRIMM

SHE-WOLF
a solo show by Nick van Woert

Opening: 4 September 2010 from 5 – 7 pm, the artist will be present

GRIMM is pleased to present the first major solo exhibition of American artist Nick van Woert. The works in the exhibition draw on the tools and rituals developed throughout Western Civilization. They simultaneously criticize and surrender to the built environment and our tendency towards territorial and material expansion.

The title of the exhibition, *She-Wolf*, is borrowed from the creation myth surrounding the founding of Rome. The myth tells of twin infant brothers, Romulus and Remus, who were left to die in the wild and nurtured back to life by a wolf. The brothers went on to found the city of Rome. *She-Wolf* is the unwitting mother of Western Civilization.

In the sculpture *Haruspex*, Van Woert has fractured a classical figure and built its entrails out of a range of materials gathered from an empty lot adjacent to his studio. Gravel, beer bottles, flies, energy drinks, and all manner of trash are embedded in a polyurethane plastic that grows out of the figure like strata. The entrails of the figure mirror the environment we live in; they are the guts of the city, exposed and open for judgment.



Van Woert believes in the semantics of material. Common materials are imbued with meaning through our daily relationship to them outside of the context of art. In *White Out*, an enlarged architectural drafting template consisting of standardized forms used to symbolize various forms of power is cast in a polyurethane plastic impregnated with marble, two materials ubiquitous in construction – one old and one new – that share the ability to transcend extreme conditions. The title *White Out* refers to a term used to describe a snow storm so severe that it would challenge one's ability to see their own hand. The sculpture and the exhibition on the whole connect recent and ancient methods of production. The artist's anachronistic use of material and form also highlight meaning and discusses the timelessness in sculpture and art in general.

Nick van Woert, 'Haruspex' and 'White Out', 2010

NICK VAN WOERT (1979) was born in Reno, Nevada and currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. He holds a degree in Architecture from the University of Oregon and graduated from Parsons in 2007. His work was shown by GRIMM in the group show *Hi, Low and in Between* in 2009 (curated by Matthew Day Jackson) and this year Nick van Woert's work has been included in several group exhibitions in New York at Yvon Lambert, Marvelli Gallery and Nicole Klagsbrun amongst others.

Nick van Woert SHE-WOLF runs from 4 September – 23 October 2010

GRIMM is open from Wednesday – Saturday, 12 – 6 PM.

For more information or high resolution images, please contact: +31(0)20 422 7227 or info@grimmfineart.com.