

For Immediate Release:

## Isn't It

Ivin Ballen, Pello Irazu, Richard Rezac, Tamara Zahaykevich

13 June – 16 August 2008

Opening Reception: 13 June, 5–8pm

Tony Wight Gallery is pleased to present *Isn't It*, a group exhibition featuring works by Ivin Ballen, Pello Irazu, Richard Rezac and Tamara Zahaykevich. Focusing on the interplay of material construction and representation, the works in this exhibition confront some potential disparities between modes of assembly and resemblance.

Ivin Ballen reinforces the tangibility of paintings-as-objects in order to investigate the changeability of perception. After constructing maquettes out of cardboard, duct tape, plastic bottles, garbage bags, and other common detritus, Ballen uses fiberglass and aquaresin to make casts of these assemblages. The resulting structures are painted with acrylic, gouache, and oil paints to develop trompe l'oeil passages that reference the original found objects. Upon closer inspection, the illusory qualities of Ballen's work are interrupted by textural and chromatic subtleties that expose and reinforce the very process of their making.

Pello Irazu works with objects and images drawn from his studio to explore the space between photographic representation, painting and sculpture. Irazu alters and reconfigures such objects as a chair, stepladder, cardboard folders and boxes, then casts these items in aluminum and paints them. Irazu concurrently photographs the sculptures in his studio environment and paints on the surfaces of these photographs. This gesture further plays upon common expectations of two-and-three-dimensionality by upturning relationships between surface and image.

Richard Rezac constructs sculptures out of steel, welded aluminum, cast bronze, cast plaster, cast resin, and painted wood, often utilizing two or three disparate materials and forms within an individual work. Pared-down and modestly scaled, Rezac's abstractions consider the sculptural form through permutations of familiar shapes and patterns. Rezac's sculptures always begin with drawings, "studies" that at once suggest the precision of architectural renderings and the looseness of using geometry as an intuitive language.

Tamara Zahaykevich uses foam core, paper, and paint to construct sculptures that address the cumulative process of bridging form and content. The inclusion of studio debris such as foam core remnants and paint mixing palettes increase the works' approachability and reveal the artist's attachment to thrift and makeshift construction. These low-tech material choices situate the works within the mundane, and draw attention to Zahaykevich's continual reassessment of how meaning is made.

The exhibition will be on view from 13 June – 16 August 2008

A reception will be held at the gallery on Friday, June 13th, from 5–8pm.

For information please call 312.492.7261, or email at [info@tonywightgallery.com](mailto:info@tonywightgallery.com)