

inst. View

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

La galleria **1/9unosunove** è lieta di annunciare la mostra personale dell'artista inglese **Dan Shaw-Town** (1983, UK).

Dan Shaw-Town utilizza un linguaggio visivo tradizionale, quello del disegno: le opere si rifanno a un modello elementare fatto di righe e segni di matita, un'estetica di carattere collettivo spesso considerata come elemento di sottofondo, acquisito, ordinario, e che per questo richiede una nuova lettura.

Shaw-Town piega, sgualcisce, appiattisce e rielabora i disegni così da farli diventare lucidi e al contempo consumati, per scoprirne il potenziale nascosto. I disegni sono cancellati, levigati con la sabbia e dipinti per ottenere una varietà di superfici e trame, molte delle quali sembrano a prima vista non relazionarsi perfettamente con il foglio.

Così Shaw-Town riprende quello che è il processo artistico elementare e ricorrente, appurato, del ricoprire il foglio con segni di grafite. Sebbene a un primo sguardo le opere possano apparire prove di un amore per la più scarna pittura minimalista di matrice Stelliana, presto diviene chiaro che le opere mostrano invece un atteggiamento di totale irrverenza verso questo movimento: le superfici consumate, infatti, anziché privare, aggiungono e mettono a nudo i segni visibili del processo di creazione di un'opera, e mostrano quelli che sono i processi fisici e i codici estetici reiterati compiuti dall'artista.

A metà strada tra il disegno e la scultura, ogni singolo pezzo è composto da fogli di carta ricoperti da uno spesso strato di matita, piegati, maneggiati e spiegazzati per creare superfici e segni compositivi differenti. La vernice spray, utilizzata sia come base su cui 'stendere' la grafite sia come rifinitura, svolge la funzione di strumento per influenzarne il comportamento anziché essere un puro elemento aggiuntivo. I lavori presenti sui tavoli d'acciaio sono disposti in maniera stratificata rendendo così i disegni non totalmente visibili, come fossero cumuli di progetti non riusciti, accantonati, presentati quasi come opere da nascondere.

C'è una tensione leggermente inquietante nel sapere che ciò che appare come un momento temporaneo, simbolo del mutamento del tempo è di fatto un punto di sosta finale: gli elaborati visivi, quasi sculture, con la loro bidimensionalità e quiete visiva sono interessati alle molteplici configurazioni del potenziale estetico più di ogni altra cosa, cercando di mettere in crisi simboli e significati ricorrenti, collettivamente acquisiti.

Galleria **1/9unosunove** is pleased to announce the solo exhibition by English artist, New York based **Dan Shaw-Town** (1983, UK).

Dan Shaw-Town is interested in using a familiar visual language, and in this show the larger wall hung works all adhere to a simple striped pattern, a common aesthetic, that is often associated with the 'background'.

Using traditional processes of mark-making with graphite on paper, Dan Shaw-Town folds, crumples, flattens and reworks drawings so that they become simultaneously polished and worn to unveil their hidden potential. Drawings are erased, sanded and painted to achieve a wide array of surfaces and textures, many of which seem at first to sit uncomfortably on the paper.

With this system in place Shaw-Town is able to approach each piece in a routine manner, the covering of the paper being the primary process. At first glance the works seem to be enamoured with hard-edged minimalist painting. However it soon becomes very clear that the works display an almost total irreverence for this movement, as the scuffed surfaces lay bare the visible marks demonstrating the artists physical and repetitive process.

The exhibition consists of wall and floor based work that occupies a space somewhere between drawing and sculpture. Each piece consists of dense graphite covered paper sheets often folded, kneaded and creased to create varying surfaces and compositional markings. Spray paint is also used as either a 'primer' for the graphite or as a 'finish', in both cases the spray acts as a tool to affect the graphite rather than as an autonomous accompanying medium.

The works atop steel display tables are layered arrangements of partially obscure works that could be seen as rejections, failed drawings perhaps, better displayed as concealed objects. There is a slightly unsettling tension in knowing that what appears as a temporary moment is indeed a final resting point, suggesting these sculptures with their material flatness and repose are as much concerned with potential as they are anything else.

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
gallery@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19



Dan Shaw-Town

Untitled

2011

Graphite and spray enamel on paper, steel grommets

127,5 x 97,5 cm

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19



Dan Shaw-Town

Untitled

2011

Graphite and spray enamel on paper, steel grommets

127,5 x 97,5 cm

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19



Dan Shaw-Town

Untitled

2011

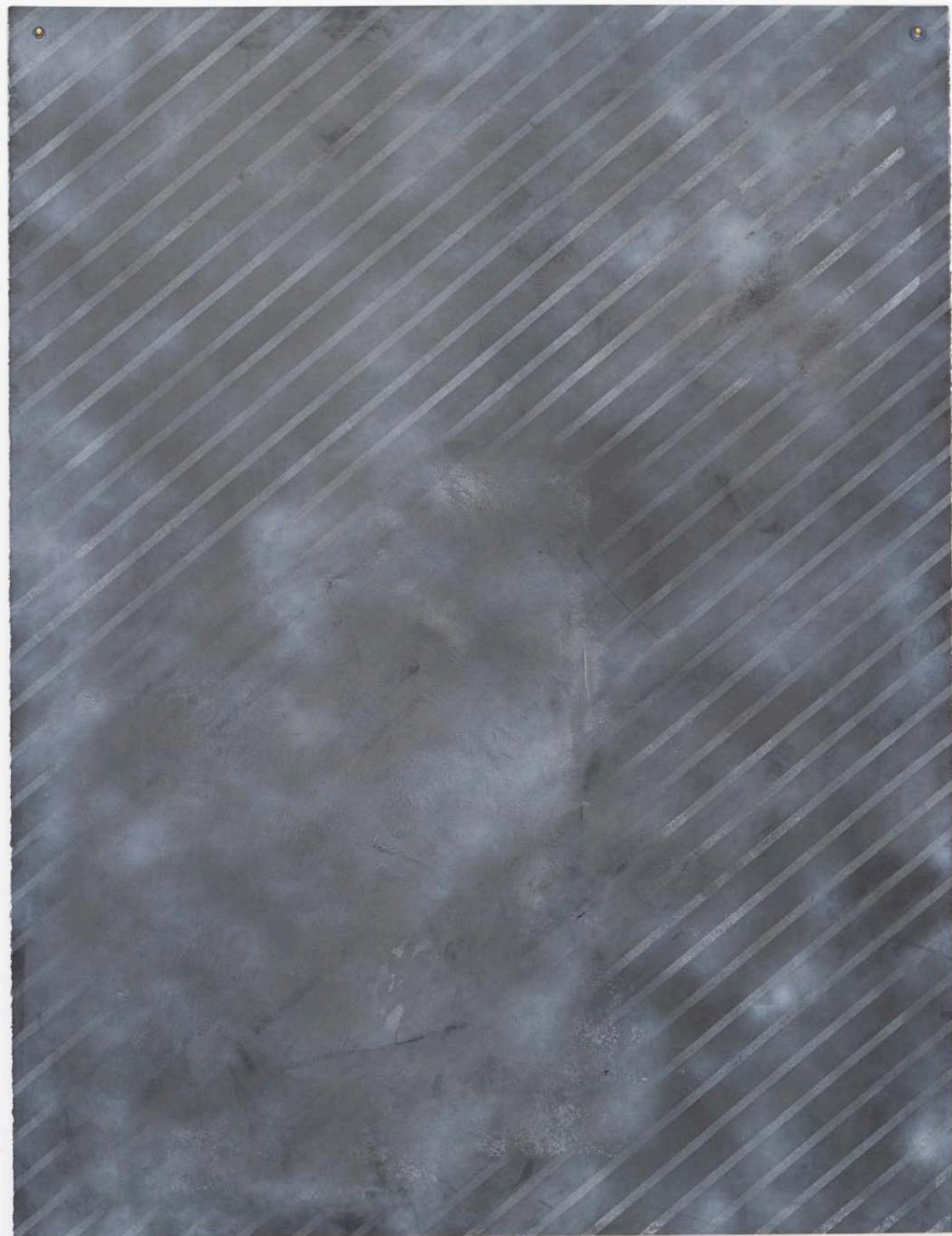
Graphite and spray enamel on paper, steel grommets

127,5 x 97,5 cm

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19



Dan Shaw-Town

Untitled

2011

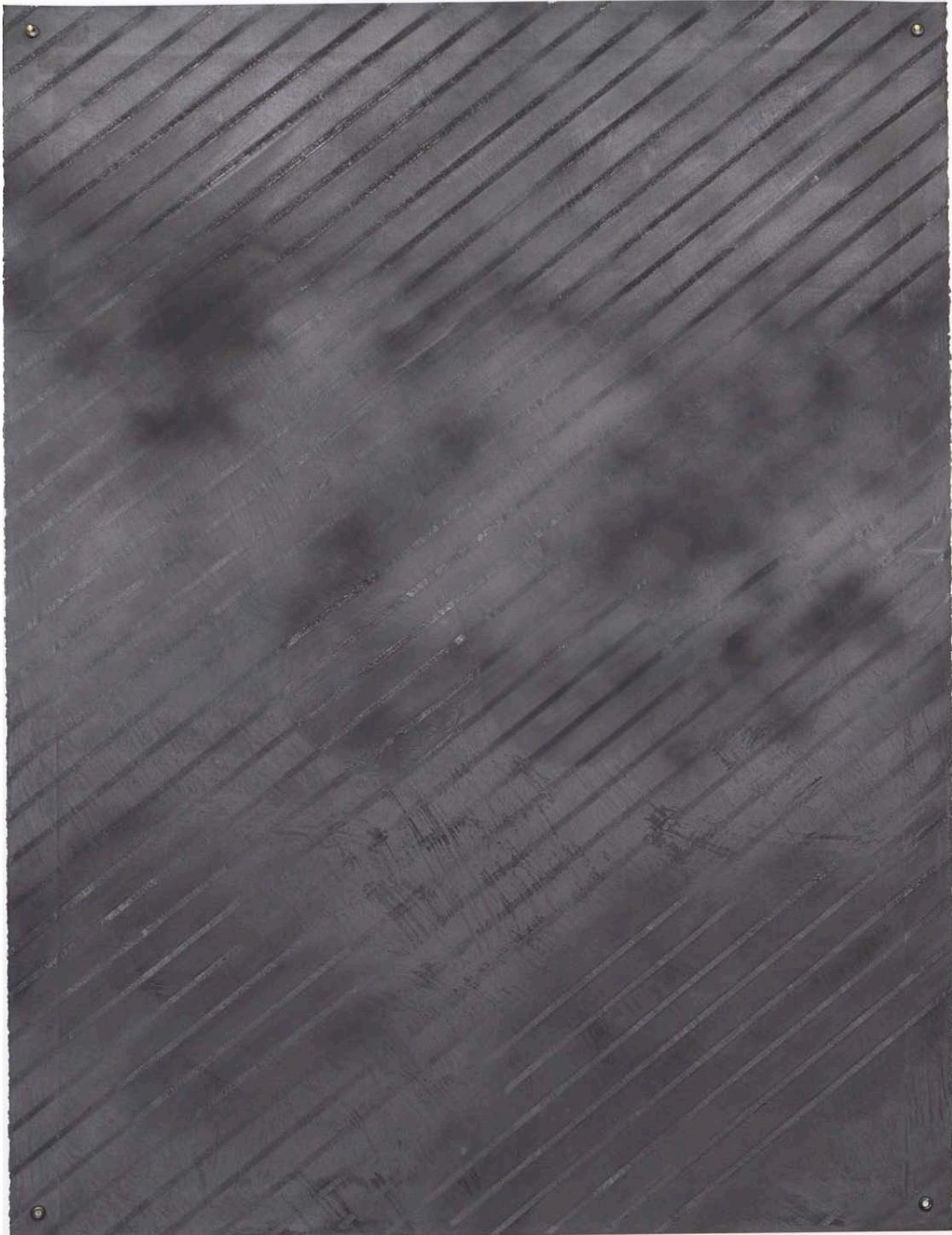
Graphite and spray enamel on paper, steel grommets

127,5 x 97,5 cm

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19



Dan Shaw-Town

Untitled

2011

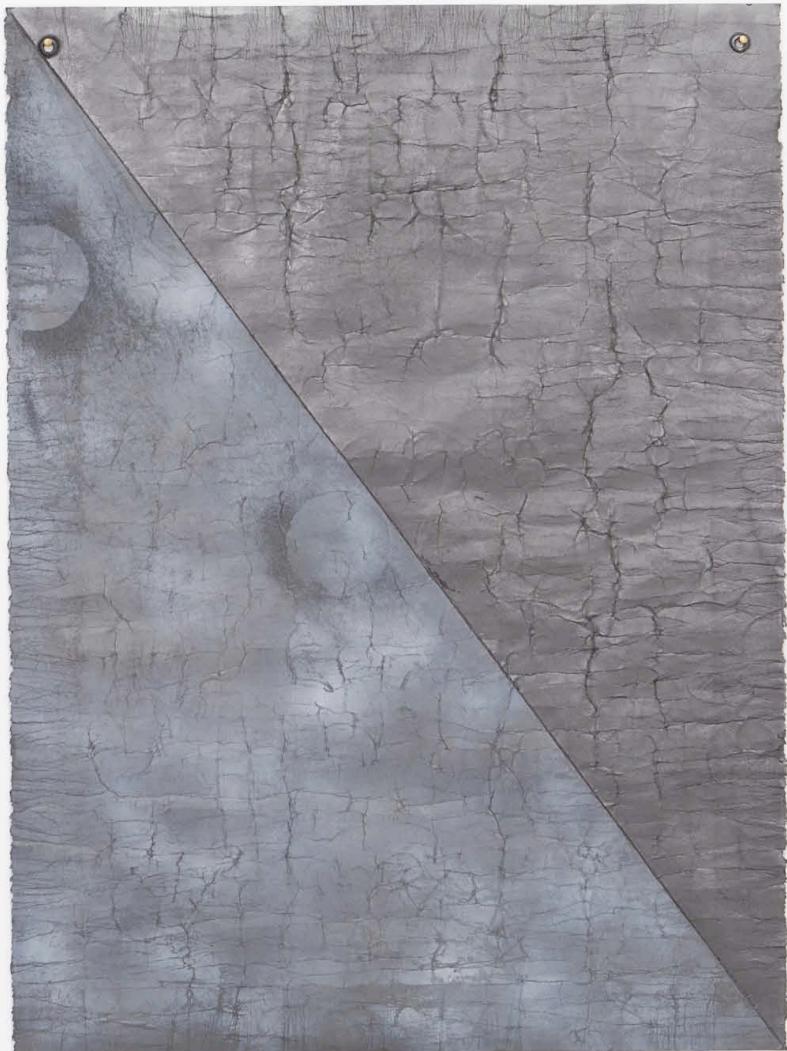
Graphite and spray enamel on paper, steel grommets

127,5 x 97,5 cm

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19



Dan Shaw-Town

Untitled

2011

Graphite and spray enamel on paper, steel grommets

75,5 x 56,5 cm

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19



unosunove
arte contemporanea

Dan Shaw-Town

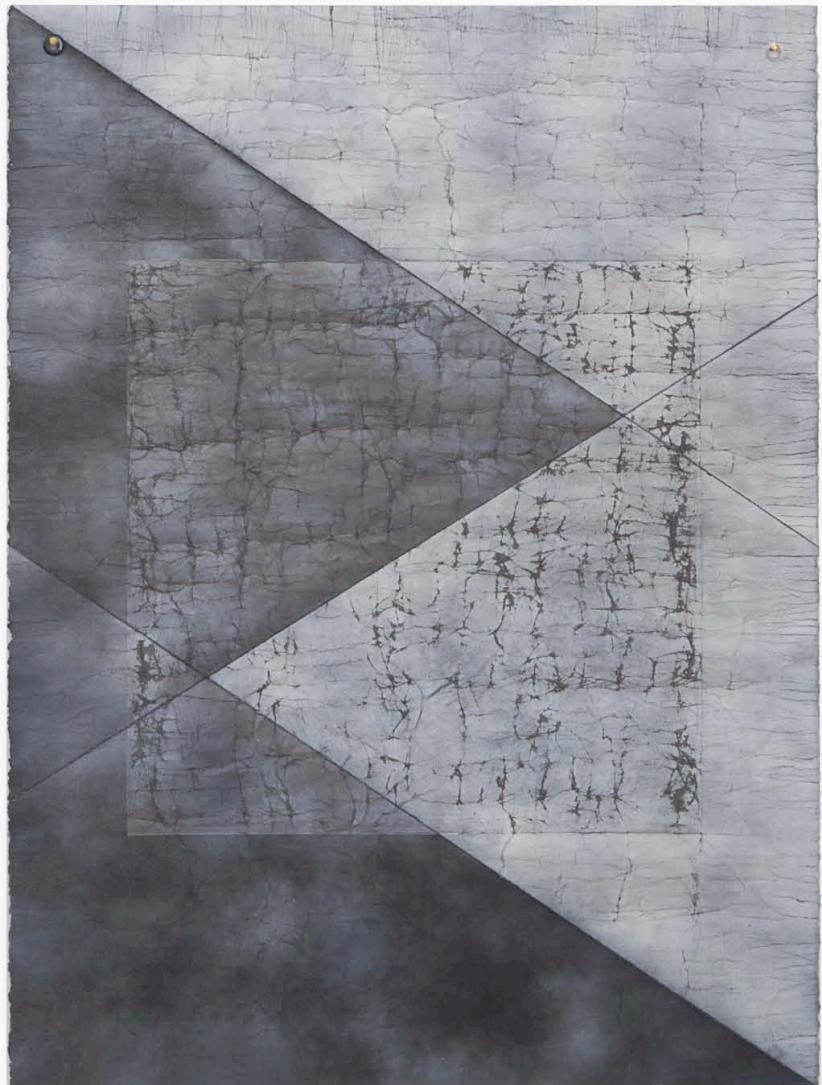
Untitled

2011

Graphite and spray enamel on paper, steel grommets

75,5 x 56,5 cm

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com



unosunove
arte contemporanea

Dan Shaw-Town

Untitled

2011

Graphite and spray enamel on paper, steel grommets

75,5 x 56,5 cm

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19



Dan Shaw-Town

Untitled

2011

Graphite and spray enamel on paper, steel grommets

75,5 x 56,5 cm

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com



Dan Shaw-Town

Untitled

2011

Spray paint on rubber, graphite and spray paint on paper and newspaper, steel and plywood

120 x 80 x 35

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19



Dan Shaw-Town

Untitled

2011

Spray paint on rubber, graphite and spray paint on paper and newspaper, steel and plywood

120 x 80 x 35

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19



Dan Shaw-Town

Untitled

2011

Spray paint on rubber, graphite and spray paint on paper and newspaper, steel and plywood

120 x 80 x 35

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
galleria@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19

Dan Shaw-Town

1983 Born UK

Lives and works in Brooklyn, New York, USA

Education

MFA, Goldsmiths, University of London

BA Fine Art, London Metropolitan University

Solo Exhibitions

2011

Unosunove, Rome, Italy

China Art Objects, Los Angeles, USA

Seventeen, London, UK

De-phasing-patterns (two-man exhibition with Marc Bijl) Spazio Cabinet, Milan, Italy

2010

Used-Paper, Khastoo Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

Retro-Modern, Christopher Crescent, London, UK

2009

Drawings, Gallery-C at TEAM, New York, USA

Spill the wine, get the salt, Christopher Crescent, London, UK

2008

PULP, RUN, Tudor Grove, London, UK

Selected Group Exhibitions

2011

West street gallery, New York, with Julia Rommel, USA

Christopher Crescent, London, UK

EAF-European American Friendship, Duve, Berlin, Germany

Mind Games, China art objects, Los Angeles, USA

Common Room, Pianissimo, Milan, Italy

Surface/Tension, Lisson Gallery, London, UK (with Kitty Kraus and Gedi Sibony)

2010

Tactile Gaze, Galleria 1/9 unosunove, Rome, Italy

The Library of Babel, In and Out of Place, 176 Zabludowicz Collection, London

2010, Mot International, London. UK

2009

Filmic Conventions, Formcontent at Zoo Art Fair

Cabinets #5, SE8, London, UK

Unfair project, De Service Garage, Art Amsterdam 09, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Contested Ground, 176 Gallery London, UK

Screenings, Christopher Crescent, London, UK

2008

'ARC' Public sculpture installation, Heathrow Airport Terminal 5. London, UK

Laugh track, Brussels Biennial, YUM 21, Brussels, Belgium.

Boys and their toys, Gallery SC Zagreb, Croatia.

Is the World Flat?, Arti et Amicitiae, Rokin 122, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Fall in Theatre, Takecourage Gallery, London, UK

2007

Gallerie Steinle at YEAR 07 Art projects, County Hall, London, UK

Lobby, Hales Gallery, Bethnal Green, London, UK

Wish you were here, RUN gallery, London, UK

2006

Strange Times, the International Gallery, Liverpool Biennial, Liverpool, UK

Majestic, presented by Run Gallery, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK

2005

I.d.e.a London collaborative project, Institute of Contemporary Art, London, UK

From London with love, Gallery Miroslav Kraljevic, Zagreb, Croatia

Make your own Damn Art, with Bob & Roberta Smith, Stanley Picker Gallery, Kingston upon Thames, UK

2004

Campaigning, Shopping and Politics, Unit 2 Gallery, Whitechapel, London, UK

Prizes and Awards

2008 BAA Expo initiative, public sculpture award.

2006 Roley prize for Fine Art. 1st place

Bibliography

2009

Timeout London, review of Cabinets #5 at SE8, London, by Gabriel Coxhead,
www.timeout.com

Artforum, review of Drawings at Gallery-C, New York, by Mara Hoberman,
www.artforum.com

unosunove
arte contemporanea

palazzo santacroce
via degli specchi 20
00186 roma italia
tel. +39 06 97613696
fax +39 06 97613810
gallery@unosunove.com
www.unosunove.com

19