

## George Tobias – All that glitters is not gold

03 July - 13 August 2009

Private View 02 July, 6-9pm



Dolly and Drop - Silent Mao (detail), 2009  
70 x 107 cm, ink and varnish on paper



Wall (detail), 2004  
96 x 120 cm, photocopy toner on porcelain

The KESTER+BLES gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of Tobias' latest work - flickybooks and paper wall hangings - in conjunction with a number of on-going and earlier pieces, including his collected diaries, and a selection of ceramic objects from the installation *Bedrock*.

Tobias' flickybooks and wall hangings are adapted from a series of short films produced in collaboration with Ed Burton. Fascinated by the fact that 9/11 occurred on his birthday, Tobias retells the story, using a drop of water instead of an aeroplane. Particular elements of these books have resulted in large-scale prints, which Tobias has subsequently altered, using whisky, nail polish, ink, varnish, vaseline and glitter.

Throughout his life, Tobias has maintained a series of diaries in which he comments on current affairs by combining social and political facts with newspaper fragments, imagery taken from mass consumerism, and very personal statements. These diaries will be available to view by half hour appointments.

George Tobias (1956) was born in South Africa and has lived and worked in London since 1984. Tobias studied Architecture at the University of Cape Town and spent some years creating films and film props before studying Sculpture at the Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg. Tobias has been exhibiting his work in South Africa and the UK since 1985. Exhibitions include '*Bedrock*' at the Horse Hospital in London (solo) and '*Democracy X*' in Cape Town (group). Later this year Tobias will be partaking in a high-profile group show called '*Dada South*' at the South African National Gallery. In conjunction with his studio practice, Tobias teaches at the London Buddhist Centre and local schools.

KESTER+BLES is a contemporary art gallery that opened in Notting Hill, London, in September 2008. The gallery was founded by Lieke Kester and Eelke Jan Bles, who are both Dutch. KESTER+BLES shows work by emerging artists from Northern Europe, particularly those based in the UK and the Netherlands.

**For further information and high resolution images, please contact Lieke Kester on:**  
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Opening hours: Mon to Fri from 10.30 to 6 and Sat from 12 to 5 during exhibitions, or by appointment