

**CHARLOTTE JACKSON FINE ART  
PRESENTS:**

**JEREMY THOMAS: *Implements***



August 8 - September 1, 2008

Spend some time with any number of sculptures by Jeremy Thomas and one begins to see *everything* in them. The pieces lend themselves to adjectives, to similes, to theoretical leaps. Solid as they are they still seem to rest at some ineffable point between chance and intention, lighthearted and serious, feminine and masculine. With their brilliant colors from a child's paint box they look like toys scattered across the floor. With their smooth soft surfaces, dimples, and surprising curves they are highly erotic.

Thomas' work contains paradox. His sculptures are made of steel, cut, welded, and folded into geometrical shapes. The metal is heated to well over 2,000 degrees at which point the metal becomes as supple and elastic as clay. Thomas then inflates the forms with air (here chance comes into action as metal and air interact). The final pieces are powder-coated in slick colors from industrial tractor, lawn-mower, and implement manufacturers that contrast with the surface of suede-like rust patina that Thomas adds to one or more side of each piece. Many of the new pieces, using implement colors, hang on the wall and have taken on a more functional form which again teases at the idea of form, object, utility, and metaphor. The end results are seductive works that call out to be touched.

Although there are many ideas and theories that can be explored in discussing these objects: alchemy and the elements (these are mixtures of all four—earth, air, fire, and water), their play on desire as non-gender-specific, the ironic use of industrial tractor colors on sensual organic forms, Thomas believes that ideas and theories come after the fact. As he says, "Art making is a happy medium between play and reason."

His own background perhaps adds to the balance of simple complexity found in his work. Thomas has been making art since he was a kid, in a multiplicity of mediums including printmaking, drawing, and painting. The story of how he came to sculpture is just as rich as his works—after a year at the College of Santa Fe studying painting he was moving out of the dorms and left his box of paints and brushes out by his car. They were stolen. The next semester he took a sculpture class and never looked back. As filled to the brim with art history and theory as any modern artist, it is *life* rather than theory Thomas says, that ultimately influences his work.

Life—which takes us back to how these pieces so simply and easily lead the viewer toward wild and conflicting responses. This exhibition provides the opportunity to walk among these sculptures that delicately balance that happy confluence of "play and reason."







Sunflower Red, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
23 1/2 x 53 x 11 inches JT151



Aitchison Green, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
18 x 55 x 18 inches JT149



Crust Buster Orange, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
46 x 29 x 18 1/2 inches JT145





Kinze Blue, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
38 x 40 x 27 inches JT147



Marliss Blue, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
24 x 36 1/2 x 33 1/2 inches JT148





Aitchison Yellow, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
29 1/2 x 31 x 34 inches JT150



Brillion Red, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
11 x 36 1/2 x 11 1/2 inches JT152





Kuhn Yellow, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
21 1/2 x 32 1/2 x 21 inches JT153



Various Titles, forged mild steel and powder coat, dimensions vary





**At the Charlotte Jackson Project Space:**





Tye Orange, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
38 x 59 x 44 inches JT160





Suk-up Blue, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
40 x 71 x 52 inches JT162





International Gold, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
70 x 43 x 42 JT165



Yetter Black, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
36 x 47 x 41 1/2 inches JT161





Ezeon Yellow, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
40 x 47 x 40 inches JT159





Stieger Panther Pink, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
40 x 71 x 52 inches JT163





Hiniker Red, 2008  
forged mild steel and powder coat  
11 x 7 x 9 inches JT156

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