

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Max Schumann
upstairs: Devon Costello
November 30th, 2007 to January 12th, 2008
Opening reception on Friday, November 30th from 6-8pm

THE RETURN OF FREEDOM

OUR FREEDOM IS UNDER THREAT

OUR FREEDOM SHALL SURVIVE

OUR FREEDOM IS IN PERIL

OUR FREEDOM SHALL PREVAIL

OUR FREEDOM HAS BEEN BETRAYED

OUR FREEDOM SHALL RETURN

OUR FREEDOM SHALL RULE

OUR FREEDOM IS FOREVER

Max Schumann, an exhibition in two parts:

Part One: November 30 - December 22, 2007

Part Two: January 3 - January 12, 2008

This is Max Schumann's second solo exhibition at Taxter & Spengemann. His last solo exhibition was *News Painting Project* at The Theater For The New City, New York, NY in May 2007. Previous solo exhibitions were at Liste: The Young Artfair in Basel, Switzerland in June 2006 and at Taxter & Spengemann in June 2005. Group exhibitions include: *Thin Walls*, curated by Sara Greenberger Rafferty, Klaus Von Nichtssagend Gallery, Brooklyn, NY; and *Bring Me the Receipts*, Red Saw Gallery, Newark, NJ. Max Schumann lives and works in New York and is also the Associate Director of Printed Matter, Inc., New York, NY.

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The gathered harvest is refashioned into objects and installations that are utilitarian and functional. A fetishistic fantasy museum/salon, a museum of oddities and taxidermy, of dead things and dead history is curated and installed. The serial killer Ed Gein fashioned human skins into lampshades, clothing, and upholstery for chairs, this practice has a similar structure to that of the relationship of consumption and production that occurs in this body of work. The work becomes a ritualistic killing and display of art, painting, and sculpture. This mode of production digs up history, and investigates its relationship to keepsake, re-purposed materials and furniture as a functional collection that exists in a private sphere of interior space, referencing interior decorating.

-Devon Costello

This is Devon Costello's second solo exhibition at Taxter & Spengemann. A New York-based artist, he is currently participating in a residency at Städelschule in Frankfurt, Germany. His previous exhibition at Taxter & Spengemann was in June 2006. Recent group exhibitions include, *The Incomplete*, curated by Manon Slome and Hubert Neumann, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, NY; *Beneath the Underdog*, curated by Nate Lowman and Adam McEwen, Gagosian Gallery, New York, NY; and *Supernature Times Nature*, Rocket Gallery, Tokyo, Japan; and *The Poster Project*, which he curated with Ilya Lipkin, Kantor/Feuer 10th Avenue window, Participant Inc. and Printed Matter, New York, NY.