

Tom Friedman, Gaylen Gerber, Joe Scanlan  
October 24 – November 22, 2003  
Daniel Hug Gallery  
510 Bernard Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Tel 323-342-1133

Opening reception 5:00 – 7:30pm Wednesday, October 24, 2003

**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***

TOM FRIEDMAN, GAYLEN GERBER, JOE SCANLAN  
*Opening reception, Wednesday, October 24th 5-7:30 PM*  
Exhibition continues through Saturday, November 22, 2003

Daniel Hug Gallery is pleased to present the work of Tom Friedman, Gaylen Gerber, and Joe Scanlan in its inaugural exhibition.

This exhibition focuses on the early work of these three internationally recognized artists, each of whom use of scale, humor, and simplicity of form to draw our attention to everyday materials and supports that typically go unrecognized and unconsidered.

Tom Friedman is known for his inventive transformations of everyday materials into unexpected and humorous sculptures. *Untitled*, 1992, is a quintessential early Friedman made of nothing more than plastic drinking straws taking the form of a teardrop as its weight pulls it down. Gaylen Gerber's *Backdrop* is a site-specific painting; painted first in 1994 and later remade to fit the architecture of each new exhibition situation. The painting is sized to the dimensions of the wall on which it is installed, allowing it to simultaneously exist as a discrete painting and seem to become part of the architecture of the site. Tom Friedman's sculpture is installed directly on top of the *Backdrop*. Thus, the painting functions both as an object in itself and a background for other things, including works of art. Joe Scanlan made *Potting Soil (Chicago)*, 1991, by recycling his own household and studio refuse such as coffee grounds, sawdust, egg shells and cigar ash. The resulting "potting soil" transforms these lowly materials into something rich, unexpected, and full of promise.

Through reductive means and simple gestures, each of these works question the complex relationships between labor, value, and play, and ask the viewer to slow down and consciously examine the experience of looking and interpretation.

Tom Friedman was born in St. Louis, MO, in 1965. Solo exhibitions include: *Projects 50* at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; The New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; The museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; St. Louis Museum, St. Louis, MO. He currently lives and works in Northampton, MA.

Gaylen Gerber was born in McAllen, TX, in 1955. Solo and cooperative exhibitions include: The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago; The Neues Museum Weserburg Bremen, Germany; The Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago, Chicago, The High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA. He currently lives and works in Chicago, IL.

Joe Scanlan was born in Stoutsville, OH, in 1961. Solo exhibitions include: The Museum Haus Lange, Krefeld, Germany; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. He currently lives and works in New Haven, CT, and Wellfleet, MA.

The reception is open and free to the public. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM, Saturday 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM. For further information contact the gallery.