



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WHAT: Snow Gallery presents *Tucker Neel: Monuments to the Pres(id)ent*, a solo exhibition pairing Neel’s recent work addressing contemporary questions of political identity with a curated selection of prints from the gallery by William Hogarth and Giovanni Battista Piranesi.

WHEN: Friday, October 3, 2008 – November 8, 2008
The gallery is open Wednesday – Saturday 11:00AM – 5:00PM
Opening Reception: Friday, October 3, 2008 6:00– 9:00PM

WHERE: Snow Gallery
1517 Dallas Avenue
Nashville, TN 37212
www.SnowGallery.net

In a nod to the political season, Snow Gallery is pleased to present *Monuments to the Pres(id)ent*, an exhibition of new work by Los Angeles-based artist Tucker Neel. The exhibition runs from Friday, October 3, 2008 – November 8, 2008 with an opening reception on Friday, October 3, 2008, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

As an artist concerned with the how memory and memorialization influence subjective and national identity, Neel reflects on the current political landscape with new work questioning notions of presidential leadership, choice, allegiance, ideology, and, specifically, the iconography associated with political debate and electioneering.

This exhibition grew out of the artist's interest in tying together the works of William Hogarth (1697-1764) and Giovanni Battista Piranesi (1720-1778), two artists whose prints he curated from the gallery's extensive collection. Neel created work in dialog with these artists' enduring prints, tying an intentionally tenuous thread between Hogarth's political caricature's and Piranesi's imagined monuments.



Tucker Neel
Lincoln Memorial Sculpture, 2008
11 x 14”
Ink on paper collage on mat board



William Hogarth
The Politician, 1833
11.5 x 14.75"
Line Engraving & Etching on paper

Taking these works as a jumping off point, Neel created multiple drawings, prints, and installations, incorporating detailed images of bandaged politicians, reworked campaign buttons, replicated political cartoons, moved national monuments and frustrating flower arrangements. With each of his new works Neel investigates the sometimes-overlooked formal qualities of politicized objects and images that influence national debate and shape our collective identity.

In coordination with this exhibit Neel will be the first artist-in-residence at the James E. Walker Library at Middle Tennessee State University. Working with faculty and students, he will create a limited edition print on The Stones River Press' replica of an 18th century printing press. Neel will also present a lecture on his work to students and faculty at the University (date and time yet to be determined).

This exhibition is purposefully situated in a very specific political and social context, occurring in the heart of the 2008 Presidential election. With one of the presidential debates just around the corner from the gallery, this exhibition creates a complimentary, open-ended forum, a place to reflect not just on the current political climate, but on how our present-day actions and beliefs are tied up in objects, images, and memories from the past.



Tucker Neel
Candidate, 2008
19 x 24"
Ink on paper collage on paper

For more information about Tucker Neel and to view his projects visit tuckerneel.com.

Snow Gallery offers a unique mix of historical and contemporary art juxtaposed to bridge eras and cultures. Rotating current exhibits complement an outstanding collection of rare prints, textiles, and other arts and crafts from around the world.

To receive print quality images or answers to questions please contact the gallery.

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