

Victoria Miro **Press Release**

Tal R *armes de chine*

21 May – 25 July 2009

Private View & Performance | Wednesday 20 May 6 - 8pm

"*armes de chine* refers to a classic manual about weapons from ancient China. These objects, which once had a very specific and practical purpose, now several hundred years later seem completely abstract. Like a long lost slang." Tal R



Opening 20 May, Victoria Miro Gallery will present the latest body of work by Danish artist Tal R. From 2005 to 2008, in his dynamic studio 'Palace', Tal R extended his practice to incorporate collaborations in dance, film, theatre, cabaret, music and fashion, and it is in this period of intense experimentation that the works presented in *armes de chine* have their roots.

Described varyingly (and not exhaustively) as "owls, sad penises, eggs, elegant guard women with buns, lost scouts, wrong fruits, melted minimal ice cream, sad fruits, junk and bottles, tombstones, embarrassed old uncles", the objects - whether sculptures, paintings, or works on paper - are installed as a field across the floor of the main gallery space, with no work presented on the walls. The effect is almost that of a group show, where pockets of activity allow for explorations of ideas and discursive possibilities, with no fixed hierarchies of medium or modes of looking. Always pushing a concept to its most deliriously unexpected realms, Tal R continues his associative investigations of colour, form, and meaning in *armes de chine* by transforming each work into a kind of "long lost slang" of its own, honing his characteristically playful marriage of abstraction and representation into a new vocabulary for artistic production.

***White Crane* by fashion project Moonspoon Saloon featuring the Los Angeles band We Are The World**
Performance Wednesday 20 May at 7.30pm

Moonspoon Saloon is a fashion project by Tal R, Sara Sachs and Noam Griegst. *White Crane* is a performance show created for Victoria Miro by Moonspoon Saloon featuring the Los Angeles band We Are The World. Again, the lost army marches in hysteria.

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Open Tuesday to Saturday
10am to 6pm, admission free
tubes, Old Street and Angel