

L&M ARTS

660 Venice Boulevard, Venice, CA 90291

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Bottle II, 2010, plaster, 120 x 43 x 45 inches.

Thomas Houseago
All Together Now

January 22- March 5, 2011

Opening Reception: Saturday, January 22, 2011, 6 – 8 pm

L&M Arts, Los Angeles is honored to present *All Together Now*, an exhibition of new work by Los Angeles-based artist Thomas Houseago. This exhibition marks the artist's first show with the gallery. Houseago, known for his exploration of the human figure, will present an impressive array of new sculptures, in forms both familiar and entirely new, and will showcase them in every material in his repertoire: plaster, bronze, aluminum, and wood. The artist will also address the installation with a fresh perspective, animating the gallery spaces both inside and out. Houseago is known for playing a formal game, manipulating volume and relief to create tension between two and three-dimensional space. Body parts are impossibly linked together, and realistically sculpted limbs lead to drawn representations of others. This visual play gives these hulking figures a sense of fragility and awkwardness while remaining imposing and dynamic at the same time.

These works often reveal the physical marks of fabrication, with skeletons of iron bars exposed, raw edges from jigsaw cuts, and plaster and hemp slathered on the forms. They are both sensually and crudely constructed, as if their maker is also in a physical battle with these figures. In the end, he gives new life to these classic forms. Houseago acts as cultural sponge, taking his visual cues from a disparate number of sources from tribal art to Picasso. But this vocabulary is then synthesized through a 21st century lens, and merged with rock 'n roll, science fiction, and animation. The work self-consciously references the past, but remains

utterly innovative and contemporary.

In this exhibition, Houseago takes on an entirely new genre, the landscape, expressed through a new series of "panels." Shown here in aluminum, the artist creates stylized portals that look upon moments in his adopted and much beloved city of Los Angeles. They also address architecture in a new way; while figures inhabit the space, the panels transform and alter one's perception of it.

Thomas Houseago was born in Leeds, England and studied at St. Martin's School of Art in London and De Ateliers in Amsterdam. After completing his studies, he lived and worked for several years in Brussels before moving to Los Angeles. The artist has enjoyed a very busy year and in addition to the gallery exhibition, his work can now also be seen in a two person show (with Amy Bessone) at the Rennie Collection in Vancouver; The Artist's Museum at MoCA, Los Angeles; and a one person show at the Museum of Modern art in Oxford, England (travelling). A fully illustrated catalogue will accompany our exhibition with an essay by Michael Ned Holte.

GALLERY INFORMATION: Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 - 5:30 and by appointment.
For additional information, please contact the gallery at: +1.310.821.6400 or visit our website: www.lmgallery.com.