

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Heather Darcy Bhandari, (212) 331-8888 or heather@mixedgreens.com



# JOSEPH SMOLINSKI

*After the Fall*

**AUGUST 21 – OCTOBER 3, 2008 • Opening Thursday, September 4, 6 – 8 pm**

Mixed Greens is thrilled to present Joseph Smolinski's first solo exhibition in New York. He will debut a series of graphite drawings, sculptures and a video commenting on the contemporary landscape.

Smolinski's view of the landscape changed the day he spotted an enormous fake tree used to camouflage a cellular communication tower. This "Franken-Tree" has since triggered images of a biotech future where parasitic microwave transmitters use the trees inhabiting suburbia and apocalyptic gardens as their hosts.

A large-scale rendering of an apple tree in the Garden of Eden, reminiscent of a Durer etching but complete with cell tower, will be shown as part of a series of masterful graphite drawings. The fine lines and textures are mesmerizing in their detail; each intricacy lures the viewer into contemplating the intersection between technological advancement and naturally occurring phenomena.

On an optimistic note, Smolinski has developed *Tree Turbines* which, like the cell tower trees, camouflage technology to blend into the landscape. A functioning electric wind turbine was first envisioned in the concept video *Tree Turbine*, that animates the landscape with a forest full of majestic, artificial pine trees powering a cabin, an electric car charging station and an entire city. Presented along with the video are a series of sculptures, drawings and documentation of the 20-foot tall prototype currently on view at Mass MoCA as part of the exhibition *Badlands: New Horizons in Landscape*.

*Joseph Smolinski lives and works in New Haven, CT. He received his BFA from the University of Wisconsin (1999) and his MFA from the University of Connecticut, Storrs (2001). His group exhibition venues include the McDonough Museum of Art, Youngstown, OH (2007), the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT (2007), OHT gallery in Boston, MA (2007), The Cleveland Institute of Art (2005), The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, CT (2004) and the Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT (2004). Solo exhibition venues include Real Art Ways in Hartford, CT (2006) and ArtSpace in New Haven, CT (2004). His 20-foot-tall tree turbine and drawings are currently in the Badlands exhibition at Mass MoCA.*