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CONTACT: COURTNEY STRIMPLE >>> TEL: 212 331 8888 >>> FAX: 212 343 2134 >>> COURTNEY@MIXEDGREENS.COM



## **Mixed Greens now represents CONOR BACKMAN**

Mixed Greens is thrilled to announce the addition of Conor Backman to its represented artist list.

Backman's work oscillates between media, with a strong conceptual base in painting and sculpture. Painted sheets of steel mimic fashion magazines and voluminous art history books; Stretcher frames impersonate the shape and size of a beer box; Large-scale paintings are confused for papered windows, obscuring what lies inside. Backman's work is elegant and clever, concealing, analyzing, re-creating, and reinterpreting his original reference.

Using trompe l'oeil and humor, Backman inspires the viewer to think about everything from the dissemination and recontextualization of painting on the internet, to the history of painting itself. Although artists have worked with trompe l'oeil for hundreds of years, Backman shows us new ways to challenge perception in 2013. His interest is not in the "trick," but rather the spaces between two given physical and/or

theoretical states, whether it be an original and a copy, painting and sculpture, or the "real" and the "fake." His choices are purposeful and his exploration of the mundane leads us to the sublime.

Conor Backman (b.1988) recently relocated to Ridgewood, NY, from Richmond, VA, where he earned BFAs in Sculpture and Painting from VCU in 2011. His work has been included in group exhibitions at Reynolds Gallery, Richmond, VA; Little Berlin, Philadelphia, PA; Shoshanawayne Gallery, Santa Monica, CA; Parse Gallery, New Orleans, LA; and Saamlung in Hong Kong, among others. His work is currently on view in F(re)e Play at Stadium Gallery and Welcome to the Real at {TEMP} space, both in NYC. Backman's solo exhibition at Nudashank in Baltimore, MD, opened on March 23 and his first New York solo exhibition, Diorama, will open at Mixed Greens in October. Backman was co-owner of REFERENCE Art Gallery in Richmond, VA, from 2009-2012.