

Tom Sachs: Logjam

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Des Moines Art Center

The Rose Art Museum

A made-from-scratch refrigerator and a race track for Mini-Z cars, complete with a drawbridge and a ring of fire, fill the gallery in Tom Sachs' first one-person museum exhibition in the United States. Highlighting his little known but highly significant "work stations" and what could be described as his "living stations," Tom Sachs: Logjam allows the viewer to peer into the spaces in which this artist works.

Tom Sachs is known for his effusive installations and constructions of a variety of objects more commonly found within the public or commercial domain. These works include a McDonald's fast-food stand, a made-from-scratch refrigerator, Hello Kitty dolls, and an aircraft carrier tower. He constructs these objects from a variety of purchased and found materials, including stolen wooden New York City police barricades. Throughout Sachs' career, he has created works of art based on both high-end consumer products, such as Prada, Chanel, and Hermes, and on more popularly based products, such as Hello Kitty and McDonald's, either by appropriating their new forms. He has used these works to respond to, and often critique, our overpowering consumer culture its desire for more and more status-giving products. This exhibition, arguably Sachs' most personal to date, explores how and why he is drive to fabricate objects and how he chooses to make what he does. Included here are his toolboxes, workstations, and "living" sites. These provide evidence of his working-and playing-processes. With boyish enthusiasm, Sachs displays his collection of tools. Just as he eagerly offers up his technical competence and craftsmanship for all to see. In his sculptures, Sachs blurs the boundaries between the mass produced and the handmade, the public and the private realms, while mining the embedded history of the object and his materials.

Tom Sachs: Logjam is organized by Jeff Fleming, director. This exhibition will travel to the Rose Art Museum of Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, in the fall of 2007.