

**Michael Joo**

*Distilled*

September 8 – October 1, 2005

September 2, 2005, New York – This fall, Korean-American sculptor Michael Joo will inaugurate a large-scale installation entitled *Still Lives*. As a preview to the unveiling, Anton Kern Gallery will put on a concise presentation of one new sculpture by Joo entitled *Distilled*, starting September 8, 2005.



*Distilled* is Joo's fourth solo exhibition at Anton Kern Gallery. As the title indicates, *Distilled* is a companion piece to the extensive sculptural installation to be presented later this fall, but it also is a companion piece in a deeper, more personal sense; this work has been up in the artist's studio for the past two years, slowly evolving, almost organically growing and changing in the presence of a developing, wide-ranging body of work. Joo uses hand-built-plastic to cover a variety of objects, from household articles to taxidermy models, giving these items a new, highly tactile and sensual skin; in other words, Joo neutralizes their disparate origins, the animal world, the domestic sphere, and the medical field, conceiving of a new animated hybrid world.

Michael Joo's work has been exhibited in venues across Europe, Asia and the U.S., most recently in one-person exhibitions at The Asia Society in New York (2005) and The Palm Beach Institute of Contemporary Art (2004). In 2001, Joo presented his work in the Korean Pavilion of the 49<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale. Recent group exhibitions include shows at The Studio Museum in Harlem, The Bronx Museum, The Israel Museum (all 2003), the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin (2001), and The Whitney Museum (2000).

The exhibition at **Anton Kern Gallery** opens on Thursday, September 8 and will run through October 1, 2005. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am - 6 pm. For further information and images, please contact Christoph Gerozissis or Michael Clifton at (t) 212.367.9663, (f) 212.367.8135 or email: [info@antonkerngallery.com](mailto:info@antonkerngallery.com).

**Also on view at Anton Kern Gallery: Lara Schnitger (September 8 – October 8, 2005)**

**Upcoming exhibition: Sergej Jensen (October 14 – November 12, 2005)**