

# DIAZ CONTEMPORARY

April 26 2006  
Press Release

CHRISTIAN GIROUX AND DANIEL YOUNG  
COSMOS, ALOUETTE & IDCSP

MAY 4–JUNE 10, 2006  
OPENING THURSDAY, MAY 4, 6–9 PM

Artists in attendance

Diaz Contemporary is pleased to present collaborators Christian Giroux & Daniel Young's first exhibition with the gallery.

For Cosmos, Alouette & IDCSP the artists have emulated the forms of space satellites, reproducing them as full-scale sculptural models. Taking communication satellites as embodiments of the ethos of the nations that developed them, the artists chose a single Cold War-era Russian, Canadian, and American satellite design to reproduce, thereby creating a phenomenological overview of the aesthetics of that fraught time.

Working from artists' impressions, declassified schemata, and archival photographs as palimpsests of the actual military equipment they purport to represent, Giroux and Young conceived of each reproduction in a different form; Cosmos manufactured from steel, Alouette created from powder coated aluminum and PVC, and IDCSP built out of PVC, aluminum tubing, and vacuum formed styrene.

Young and Giroux have reproduced the satellite endeavours of the two Cold War superpowers and their Canadian neighbour on a 1:1 scale—much larger than that usually associated with models. These works appear as if they might be pre-production prototypes, but created well after the fact of their actual production, they garner post-production status, entering them into the realm of homage and confabulation. With a military complex frequently perceived as overblown and self-serving, these works become taxonomical investigations into the aesthetics of international political, social and economic structures as reiterated in sculptural form.

Coinciding with:

Christian Giroux and Daniel Young: Access & Excel  
May 6 - June 17, opening May 5, 8 pm  
YYZ 401 Richmond Street West, Suite 140, Toronto

The artists gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the following funding bodies:



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ROBIN PECK  
SHALLOW

MAY 4–JUNE 10, 2006  
OPENING THURSDAY, MAY 4, 6–9 PM

Artist in attendance

New Brunswick-based artist Robin Peck's first exhibition with Diaz Contemporary features two sculptural works.

Occupying the gallery's second space, *Shallow* consists of two stacks of Plexiglas sheets. Each stack is made of standard 4' x 8' size sheets of Plexi, lying one atop another, with each sheet being of a different thickness, at 1/8, 3/16, and 1/4 inches. Riding each other's backs they form a small plastic lagoon, at once lacking any real depth while not actually being two-dimensional; they languish in their barely palpable entries into the third realm of dimension.

The Plexiglas sheets that make up the two sculptures are placed in different sequences of thickness for each work. As a result the same total thickness is achieved, while close examination reveals liminal differences in edge definition.

This work builds upon Peck's forays into neo-minimalism and its expansions, applying the visual vocabulary of minimalist and formalist endeavour to his metaphysical occupations with being and space.