

Trent's Top Gallery Picks

March / April 2010

By Trent Morse

NORMAN MOONEY, "WALL FLOWERS"

Causey Contemporary, 92 Wythe Ave., through 4/13

Causey Contemporary unveiled its vast new location with Norman Mooney's show of five geometric sculptures that combine industrial brawniness with floral daintiness. Three freestanding constructions called "Windseeds" resemble white pollen grains from a distance and appear as though a gentle gust would send them tumbling toward McCaren Park. Up close, however, their sharp aluminum projections make you fear for your safety. All the sculptures, in fact, elicit this anxiety; touch them the wrong way and you will bleed.



"Wall Flower No. 1," a starburst of yellow aluminum blades, allures you toward its core like a thirsty bumblebee before you jump back from its snarl of prickly metal. The dark-red "Wall Flower No. 2" seems somewhat less menacing simply by the nature of its material: translucent resin. In this piece, Mooney has arranged the projections in a more intricate pattern, jutting out from the center then receding at the periphery. This creates an optical illusion in which the spikes at the edges appear to wiggle as you stare at the midpoint. Simplicity of form belies complex emotional power in Mooney's sculptures—danger and delicacy coexist harmoniously and manufactured materials imitate natural wonders.



From The Current Issue

Phil On Fire

Fooling the Public with Fantasies of Affordable Housing

Thank God For Cheap Eats

In the past ten years, there has been no shortage of heroes in New York.

Trent's Top Gallery Picks

March/April 2010

Women Metal Fabricators

The women in our photographic essay are metal fabricators in the spaces where they engage daily in the physically demanding activity of forging and welding metals.

Williamsburg Grassroots Fashion Revolt

CATEGORIES

- [Art](#)
- [Bicycles](#)
- [Comedy](#)
- [Commentary](#)
- [Crime](#)
- [Dig & Be Dug](#)
- [Eating Around](#)
- [Environment](#)
- [Fashion](#)
- [Featured Story](#)
- [Film](#)
- [Food](#)
- [Games](#)
- [Interviews](#)
- [Issue 13](#)
- [Issue 14](#)
- [Issue 18](#)
- [Issue 19](#)
- [Music](#)
- [Party](#)
- [Phil On Fire](#)
- [Politics](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Religion](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Trent's Top Gallery Picks](#)

RECENT COMMENTS

Nancy Rielle on [Local Ecard Business Promises No Cheeseball](#)