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Pillars of Society - 125 Maiden Lane, Art in Buildings Opening

Dialogue: Eric Fertman and Nick Hornby exhibition

Monday, February 10th, 2014 at 4:03 pm | Hollie Smith

On a cold January day (the 29th to be exact) art enthusiasts, writers, and artists gathered in an unconventional space to chatter, admire, and appreciate the abstract art of Brooklyn based **Eric Fertman** and London-based Nick Hornby. Time Equities Inc. Art in Buildings Program proudly presented the newest exhibition in the lobby of 125 Maiden Lane.

The lobby is established as a corridor between the works, where many paced from one piece to the other, thankful to be out of the cold and into the warm space.

To the right of the lobby was the installation of Hornby's poetic piece, "The Present Is Just a Point," inspired by Michelangelo's David, particularly the resting of David's calf on the split tree trunk. Hornby uses computer modelling to design his work, but hand casts the sculpture - mixing 150-micron ground Carrara marble dust and nautical resin. The piece weighs half a ton and is tied to Michelangelo's work, which was also carved out of Carrara marble. Using the nautical resin (commonly used for the hulls of yachts and boats), Hornby evokes his poetic and moving title. The resin point is held to the boulder with aluminum structures. The boulder was cast off the inspiration of a boulder from Italy and has deep importance to the piece - linking to artistic history in an innovative, modern and abstract way.

Hornby's signature style includes works which are viewed best in the round, and allow optical illusion based on perspective. Hornby is also strongly inspired by iconic historic works, which he ties from past to present. The pieces deal with raw simplicity and beautifully created contrast.

The artists stood between both sculptures sharing backstories, and dashing from one sculpture to the other with those in conversation to explain the process of each piece.

Curator **Jennie Lamensdorf** darted between groups and explained her inspiration to select the works. Lamensdorf explained the contrast between both pieces - black and white, marble and wood, hand carved and computer modeled and explained how the works echoed each other from across the lobby.



With the echoing of boots clicking on the marble floors past the wine table and inviting guest book - on the other side of the lobby stood Eric Fertman's piece "Sally." The new piece, created specifically for this exhibition, is somewhat awkward and abstract, relating to the human figure in some ways. The piece brings Hornby's work to mind as it also stands tall and balanced much like David's pose. Horsehair falls down the front of the piece, softening the edges and evoking a very anthropomorphic atmosphere. Sally is edgy and witty - if a sculpture had attitude this is it.

The innovation to bring art into buildings, lobbies, and window displays all over New York is admirable and inspirational - in a city full of dreams, creativity, and outlets the Art-in-Buildings program is a gem.

See the exhibit in the *lobby of 125 Maiden Lane, New York, NY 10038*. For more information on Art in Buildings visit the site [here](#)