

THOMAS DUNCAN GALLERY

PRESS RELEASE

I THINK, AND THAT IS ALL THAT I AM

JANUARY 20 - MARCH 3, 2012

To what extent are we plastic?

– Catherine Malabou

Thomas Duncan Gallery is pleased to present its inaugural exhibition, *I Think, and That Is All That I Am*, which takes the notion of plasticity as its point of departure. In neuroscience, plasticity refers to how the brain's physical structure changes over time through learning and experience—how the brain itself is pliable. In art historical terms, plasticity relates to the materiality of the art-making process—the tangible, malleable "product" as a physical form. In this exhibition, the term functions as a catalyst for a dialogue that investigates how synaptic activity and artistic modalities can simultaneously inform and mirror one another—how the reformation of the brain influences the concept of "work" in terms of artistic production, and vice-versa. The exhibition examines how sculpting the brain is a reciprocal process: the internalization of experience and influence is externalized via individual artistic practice and recuperated, re-experienced, and re-evaluated, enabling a continual progression of output. How have current working conditions in our digital age manifested themselves in the dispersed networks of artists' oeuvres? How does this "materiality" mimic or differ from plasticity on a cellular level? How does this self-reflexive investigation affect means of artistic production?

Artists: Steven Baldi, Walead Beshty, Nathan Hylden, Scott Lyall, Zak Prekop, Chadwick Rantanen, Blake Rayne, Carissa Rodriguez, Valerie Snobeck, and Fredrik Vørslev

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