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Fragments
June 9 - July 3, 2016
John J. Richardson
Opening Reception: June 10, 2016

FRAGMENTS: SCULPTURE, PRINTS AND DRAWINGS BY JOHN J. RICHARDSON OPENS AT CAUSEY CONTEMPORARY

MARCH, 2016 NEW YORK, NY, Fragments the first solo exhibition by John J. Richardson in New York opens at Causey Contemporary with a public reception on June 10, 2016, from 6 - 8 pm. The exhibition will take place at 29 Orchard St. at the gallery's lower east side location in New York City and runs through July 10, 2016.

Industrial detritus found on the streets of Detroit forms the conceptual and formal inspiration for this body of sculpture, the Case Study Series. The artist finds and collects remnants on daily walks near his home and studio in Detroit. The resulting collection of parts, primarily small pieces of metal, rubber, and plastic, are used as models in the creation of sculpture with shifts in scale, materials, color, and composition. The discarded materials are poetically reimagined and given new life, while visual traces of their origins remain embedded within the finished sculpture. The sculptures are often displayed on stands which reflect the aesthetics of workshop and laboratory furniture; spaces of experimentation and invention.

The Interface Series consists of woodblock prints in which found industrial shapes are pieced together. The final compositions are based on juxtapositions of interlocking edges with strong positive and negative interplays.

The colored pencil drawings are based on repetitive patterns seen in the urban landscape, such as fences and grates. Titled the Industrial Filter, Grid, and Screen Series, the idiosyncrasies of hand-drawn lines provide a contrast to the rigid geometry of the source imagery as invented color heightens the permeable layers depicted.
**Biography**

John J. Richardson earned his graduate degrees in sculpture from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (MFA 1996, MA 1994) and his undergraduate degree from the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma WA (BA with honors, 1993). He currently teaches at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan where he is the Chair of the department. He has also served the department in the roles of sculpture area coordinator, Interim Chair, Associate Chair, and Graduate Officer. Through his sculpture, Richardson investigates a notion of mind/body duality where a created object begins as an extension of the maker and then emerges as a separate entity that may or may not be interdependent. He works in a variety of media including cast and welded metals, rubber, glass, wood, plastic, and stone. He has participated in over 50 national, group exhibitions and held many one-person exhibitions – including an exhibition at the South Bend Museum of Art (2007). In March 2012, he had a one-person exhibition at the University of Minnesota-Morris. In the summer of 2012 he exhibited sculpture in a group exhibition at Causey Contemporary Gallery and later in the fall at a one-person exhibition at Finlandia University. His award winning work is held in numerous private and public collections, including the Michigan Legacy Art Park (Ontonagon, 2002); Xiadu Park, Yanqing, China (Anastomatic Lines, 2001); the Open Air Museum of Steel Sculpture, Coalbrookdale, England (Articulated Lapse, 2003) and the Lumsden School, Lumsden, Scotland (Time Boundary, 2004).

In addition to creating sculpture, John Richardson makes frequent contributions to the arts as a juror, scholar, and lecturer. He has been a member of the College Art Association since 1995, became a member of the CAA Board of Directors in 2013, serves on its Professional Practices Committee (2012 - 2015), and on its Annual Conference Committee (2013 - 2016). He has participated in the Mid-America College Art Association since 2002, joining the board in 2004, serving as president from 2008 - 2012, and currently serving as past-president. He is also a member of the National Council of Arts Administrators, the Southeastern College Art Conference, and the International Sculpture Center.