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January 23 – February 28, 2009

## JESSE DUROST

Fabrications

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## JOHN SISLEY

ENDGAMES

Opening Reception: Friday, January 23, 6-9pm

Fourteen30 Contemporary is pleased to present the first exhibition of the 2009 season, bringing together the work of Portland based artist **Jesse Durost** and **John Sisley** of Los Angeles. The opening reception will be held on Friday, January 23 from 6 to 9pm, and the exhibition will be on view through February 28, 2009.

For the work in *Fabrications*, Jesse Durost combines simple architectural forms with layers and transparency, resulting in sculptural works of both logic and fantasy. Exploring the potential of a self-invented vocabulary, Durost begins his sculptures with a series of fundamental structures—simple architectural forms with varying spatial characteristics. Durost's cubes imply mass and interior; his screens imply barriers or planes, with each module arranged both systematically and intuitively. Like words in a sentence, each element takes on new meaning, as it becomes part of the larger sculptural work.

Jesse Durost attended the Columbus College of Art and Design, and lives and works in Portland, Oregon. Durost's past exhibitions include *Hole in the Sky* at the Elizabeth Leach Gallery, and *Bent* (with Chandra Bocci and Ryan Boyle), curated by Stephanie Snyder, Curator of The Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery at Reed College.

Within John Sisley's newest body of work, *ENDGAMES*, the construction and deconstruction of images is examined in works that compile, breakdown, or re-arrange figures, narrative, and temporal structure through simple repeated gestures. Sisley's recent works have explored the inaccessible latent information experienced through the erased or destroyed photograph, the lost or unseen film, and the damaged record. The title of the exhibition, *ENDGAME* refers both to the point in a game of chess when few pieces remain on the board, and to Beckett's play of the same title, in which four characters exist in a kind of limbo waiting for an end to their lives. In each group of works within *ENDGAMES*, Sisley breaks down and reconfigures a number of elements, resulting in the simultaneous degradation of the original image and the construction of each sublime new image configuration.

John Sisley was recently included in the 2008 exhibition *LA25*, at LACE, Los Angeles. A project created by Skadden & Arp to showcase the talents of some of the young artists whose work will enhance the richness of Los Angeles' cultural life, *LA25* was curated by Thomas Solomon and juried by John Baldessari, Kris Kuramitsu, Weston Naef, Cathy Opie, Ann Philbin, and Paul Schimmel. John Sisley lives and works in Los Angeles, California.