

## PRESS RELEASE

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# JAMES RIGLER THE LOST WORLD

23 June - 30 July 2011  
Marsden Woo Gallery Project Space

James Rigler's artefacts have a strange familiarity; they resemble things we know we've seen before, but find it hard to pinpoint where. Exaggerated and emphatic, each piece is a synthesis of historical forms and cultural ideas that carry with them a multiplicity of associations.

Architectural detail and domestic interiors have been important references for his recent work. The ceramic flowers are developments of the carved flora of architectural stonework; their washed-out orange and peach hues are inspired by illustrations of interiors found within books from the 1950s and 60s, books that he inherited from his architect grandfather. This palette of colours is curiously analogous to faded utopian dreams.

A stonework wall niche, held aloft on a pole, mixes an architectural feature with thoughts about the paraphernalia of folklore, the representations of ancient symbols still paraded during fête days in English market towns. It also manifests his predilection to take permanent things and make them portable. Indeed Rigler's epic and puzzling scenarios are reminders of just how much our perception of normality in the material world depends on learned rules of classification.

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

James Rigler studied Architecture at the Bartlett School, UCL (1998 - 99), 3D Craft at the University of Brighton (1999 - 2002) and for an MA in Ceramics and Glass at the Royal College of Art (2005 - 07). Since 2007 his work has been included in exhibitions in the UK, the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark and China. He has recently undertaken residencies at the International Ceramics Research Centre, Guldergaard, Denmark, the Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art, Sunderland, and during summer 2011 he will be an Artist in Residence at Cove Park, Scotland. His recent commissions include a table for Chatsworth House, Derbyshire, and an installation for the restaurant Zizzi Central, St Giles in London.

Marsden Woo Project Space is curated by Tessa Peters. The Marsden Woo Project Space is an exciting new initiative running alongside our established programme of solo and small group exhibitions by gallery artists. The Project Space allows us to respond quickly to significant bodies of innovative work and will be used to showcase the work of talented emerging artists and designers and fresh directions in the work of more established artists. These exhibitions are organized at short notice, so please check our website regularly for news on forthcoming shows and events.

For more information, images, or to arrange an interview with the artists please contact Tatjana Marsden or Alida Sayer  
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