

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hair and Skin

Organized by Isaac Lyles

July 10 - August 15, 2013

Opening Reception: Wednesday, July 10, 6-8pm

Developing research on mirror neurons and neuroesthetics suggests an alternative model of vision. Mirror neurons, found in the human brain, are the subject of recent research on “physical empathy”; the ability to physically respond to, for example, someone breaking their leg or a couple having sex. The brain actually simulates the experience of what it sees. In other words: ‘What I see, I feel.’ This model argues for the importance of empathy in vision, an embodied approach anticipated by phenomenology and now buttressed by neuroscience.

With this in mind, *Hair and Skin* presents the body in extremes to explore the potential of physical empathy and bodily resonance. My dissatisfaction with what David Freedberg and Vittorio Gallese characterize as “the primacy of cognition in responses to art” is the impetus for this exhibition. The work is visceral, it connects to our phenomenal consciousness, speaks to corporeal experience, and the unruliness of desire. The centrality of the body, the means of communicating its vicissitudes, and the effects (physical, emotional) of this communication are the subject of *Hair and Skin*.

-Isaac Lyles

Works by:

Hans Bellmer

Louise Bourgeois

Günter Brus

Borden Capalino

David Dupuis

Daniel Gordon

Aneta Grzeszykowska

Kineko Ivic

Lionel Maunz

Maria Petschnig

Chloe Piene

Adam Putnam

Aura Rosenberg

Davina Semo

Bobbi Woods

Rona Yefman

Derek Eller Gallery is located at 615 West 27th Street, between 11th and 12th Avenues. Summer hours are Tuesday - Friday from 11am - 6pm. For further information or visuals, please contact the gallery at 212.206.6411 or visit www.derekeller.com