

ROBERTS & TILTON

5801 Washington Boulevard
Culver City, CA 90232
T 323-549-0223
F 323-549-0224
www.robertsandtilton.com
info@robertsandtilton.com

Abraham Cruzvillegas September 10 - October 16, 2004

Born of an outrageous and constantly shifting sensibility derived almost entirely from metaphor, Cruzvillegas' stunningly crafted objects undermine all precepts of the "rational" and indeed go as far as to embrace the irrational, the bizarre and in some cases, the absurdly beautiful.

Like many young artists working today in Mexico City, whose visions sometimes derive from political unrest, the constant inefficacies of the ruling classes, and seek to countermand these staid ideologies with politically charged and sometimes disturbing works which project a sense of hopelessness, Cruzvillegas focuses his energy on producing intensely realized sculpture pieces that investigate the various "ruptures" both in contemporary art and modern culture. These works are strangely hopeful in their use of humor and play, though they take their cue from metaphor, from the dark underbelly of the human unconscious. While Cruzvillegas' pieces can be said to pronounce themselves politically as well, The sheer force of their physical presence propels them beyond the realm of political art making and into the ever-expanding universe of metaphorical influence.

Craftsmanship is very much the backbone of these elegant works, and it is obvious that while embracing a highly formalized approach to art as an ongoing process, Cruzvillegas rejected the "new technologies made available by neighboring capitalistic economies, those spurious nationalistic values that cultural politics attach to craftsmanship". Instead, Cruzvillegas began an investigation into the individual's relationship to craft and tradition as it exists on a human level; he sought to understand the permanence and functionality of objects, their "presence" in the world, in his world, where tradition is a means of accessing and in some cases "translating" the self from a variety of experiences. Cruzvillegas seeks to understand how these objects might be adapted to modern ways of life in a manner that resists the obvious capitalist drive