

BEST OF 2011

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ALEXI WORTH, "SHOW OF HANDS" (DC Moore Gallery, New York) In an art world where mediocre artists are routinely catapulted to superstardom only to disappear back into deserved obscurity—or, more exasperating, indefinitely escape the downward pull of gravity buoyed by an inflated commercial apparatus—it is as refreshing as it is remarkable to happen upon the work of a genuinely undersung talent. I loathe this sort of rhetoric but am happy to stoop so low to celebrate the six easel-size pictures Worth showed this past fall. His subtle play of shadow and substance, of represented image and abstract invention, makes one's head turn circles round how a given picture was made—and what it means to make one.



9. Above: Alexi Worth, *Crumpled Drawing*, 2011, acrylic on paper, 22¼ x 24".

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