

LOIS LAMBERT GALLERY TOM ECKERT

at Bergamot Station
2525 Michigan Ave E3
Santa Monica, CA 90404
loislambertgallery.com

Illusions and Deceptions

March 19, 2022 – May 7, 2022
Reception Saturday, March 19, 6-9pm

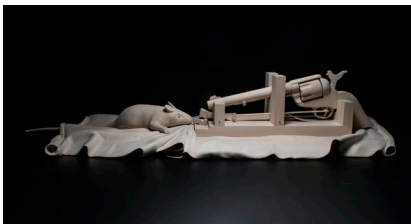
Opening

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Camisole, Basswood, Paint,
13 x 21 x 3 D



Mouse Trap, Basswood, Paint,
13 x 30 x 5 H



Insidious, Basswood, Paint,
18 x 38 x 3 D

SANTA MONICA, CA - Lois Lambert Gallery presents *Illusions and Deceptions*, the newest exhibit of work by sculptor Tom Eckert.

In his artistic practice, Eckert uses several techniques, including laminating, bending, carving, turning, and painting. This latest work of art addresses the ideas of illusion and deception. Forms carved out of wood to appear as cloth reoccur throughout his work. He meticulously molds the wood to appear as if it is a pliable piece of cloth. Eckert incorporates this "cloth" with everyday items to create an illusion. Tom believes that covered forms are more evocative than those objects that stand alone. Nodding to the structural qualities of the wood versus real cloth, Eckert says that "a sense of impossible happens -- for me, magic."

Intrigued with the beauty of rocks and their implied immortality, he often pairs the rock sculptures with the wooden "cloth" pieces. Eckert says that his aim is to mystify people and leave them thinking. "It is human nature to perceive one thing and the reality of what we are actually looking at can be completely different," he notes. Deceptive images are something Tom has been curious about since he was young. He remembers a childhood car ride and the slick road ahead that appeared as a mirage. "The revelation that I was fooled, visually and intellectually tricked, stuck with me," Eckert remembers. Tom's creative direction is driven by this thought of deception. Using stable woods that carve well, his artistic process is methodical and precise.

Tom Eckert received his M.F.A. from Arizona State University, with advanced study at California State University at Northridge. His work has been shown in over 200 national and international exhibitions. He has been published throughout the world. His work is included in many private and public collections including Los Angeles County Art Museum (CA), Racine Art Museum (WI), Museum of Fine Arts (MA), Museum of Arts & Design (New York), Albuquerque Museum (NM), Tweed Museum of Art (MN), Sheldon Museum of Art (NE), El Paso Museum of Art (TX), Tucson Museum of Art (AZ), Coconino Center for the Arts (AZ), Yuma Fine Arts Center (AZ). He received a Visual Arts Fellowship from the Arizona Commission on the Arts twice and was awarded WESTAF/NEA grants in 1993 and 1989.