

## *Chicken Cam: Poultry in Motion*

An Installation by James Clark

June 30<sup>th</sup> – August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009

Press Preview: June 30<sup>th</sup> from 5-6pm

Opening Reception: June 30<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm

### Garden

James Clark brings the notion of the pastoral countryside to the Lesley Heller Gallery on East 77<sup>th</sup> Street, capturing the essence of rural life through the construction of a displaced environment that spins into motion as the viewer moves through the gallery's exterior space. Across a 250 square-foot garden space, Clark utilizes sculpture that toys with the conceptual and abstract, while playing upon one's desire to experience the art object along with the romantic idea of the creative process.

As a site-specific environment, Clark's installation continues his investigation of color and random movement with a small group of live tie-dyed chickens, goldfish, inflatable sculptures that float on air, colorful bubbles and the aroma of a rose garden. This exhibition becomes an event that construes the happening from a single ephemeral moment to one that can be simulated repeatedly by the viewer.

Experimenting with various types of physical force, Clark defines abstraction through the act of physical movement. A series of phosphorescent-based drawings, created within the darkness of the artist's studio, will accompany this exhibition.

James Clark received the Sidney Simon Sculpture Award from the National Academy Museum at the 183<sup>rd</sup> Annual: AN Invitational Exhibition of Contemporary American Art in 2008. His work is also featured in major museum collections such as the Maier Museum of Art in Lynchburg, VA and the Seibu Art Forum in Seibu Ikebukuro, Japan. Clark's sculptural work will also be featured in a forthcoming book titled *Blind Handshake* by David Humphrey and Geoff Kaplan, which focuses on what happens between artists and spectators through the medium of artworks.

*Established in 2006, the **Lesley Heller Gallery** moved to the ground and garden floors of a 19th century townhouse in Manhattan's Upper East Side in 2008. The Gallery specializes in representing highly-regarded, mid-career artists who have not exhibited recently in New York City. Unlike most "white box" commercial galleries, works of art are presented within a casual residential setting. In order to further promote greater public appreciation and understanding of the artist represented, video dialogues of featured artists discussing their current work are viewable via the gallery's website.*



Photo courtesy of Karen Riggs