

## Australian Artists Liam Benson and Phoebe Rathmell at 2013 Cutlog NY Art Fair



Liam Benson

Courtesy Cutlog NY

a bowl on a small table and gradually cover his face, chest, arms, hands, feet and lower legs.

Sydney based artist **Phoebe Rathmell** will also participate in the fair, presenting her performance installation “Visceral Transcendence.” In “Visceral Transcendence” Rathmell constructs intricate and ephemeral arrangements of toothpicks while practicing the Buddhist state of mind known as Seishintouistu (the concentration of the mind and spirit on just one activity). According to the artist, “Vibrations created from placing each toothpick on the ground act as a mantra, which in turn heightens my meditative state of being.”

The performances by Benson and Rathmell were proposed by **Sophie Hahn**, Director of **Garis & Hahn Gallery** New York, one of the 45 galleries exhibiting at the fair. Both Benson and Rathmell are represented in New York by Garis & Hahn while in Australia Benson is represented by **Artereal Gallery**. Rathmell’s performance will take place on the Wednesday May 8 from 5pm to 10pm and Benson will perform his work on May 8th and May 9th.

Cutlog NY 2013 is the first American edition of the Paris based fair. Taking place at a former public school situated in New York’s Lower East Side, Cutlog NY will focus on showing cutting-edge and established galleries that promote the work of contemporary artists. Each of the 45 participating galleries will present an original project featuring at least one work by artists selected by a jury.

Liam Benson is a Sydney based performance artist known for using photography, video, and new media to document his work. He has been the recipient of a number of awards including the 2013 **Josaphine Ulrich** and **Win Schubert** Photography award, the 2013 Hawkesbury Art Award, and the 2011 Hazelhurst Art on Paper Award.

Phoebe Rathmell was born in Sydney and studied at the College of Fine Arts, Sydney. She was awarded the **Barry Keldoulis Gallery** Award in 2011 and was selected for the 2013 Blake Prize Directors Cut.

by Nicholas Forrest

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artwork by Phoebe Rathmell, image courtesy Cutlog NY

A new work by Australian performance artist **Liam Benson** is one of 20 projects to be featured during the inaugural

**Cutlog NY** art fair being held in New York from May 9-13. Benson’s performance, titled “Iridescent,” 2013, involves the artist covering his body with silver iridescent glitter over a period of one hour, periodically pausing to acknowledge the viewer with eye contact. Beginning with the artist sitting on a chair wearing jeans and a white t-shirt, Benson will take glitter and adhesive from



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