



The Humboldt Arts Council
in the Morris Graves Museum of Art

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Exhibition Headline: Chris Beards *Undercurrent*

Exhibition Dates: June 3 –July 28

Reception Date: First Saturday Night Arts Alive!, June 3, 6 to 8 p.m.

Museum Hours: Wednesday - Sunday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Chris Beards work explores the aesthetic of the old, used, and timeworn and is presented in rebellion to a bright and shiny mass-market consumerism. Beards is interested in the marks and evidence of time, in things that have a history. He creates melancholy surfaces that reflect the passage of time. The bittersweet reminisces of *once was and never again*.

The work in the exhibition fabricate the look of early mass-production, finding a warm reassurance and subversive humor from the hand-made mimicking the machine-made. The machine-made has a spare elegance and logical simplicity of form which the artist admires and emulates. The work has the look of simple machines waiting to fulfill simple purposes. Upon closer inspection the actual function remains elusive.

Beards inserts an organic sensibility into his work to contrast the mechanical and blur the line separating the two. The wandering contours of the organic are grafted onto the logical dictates of the mechanical. This combining and intertwining of mechanical and organic sensibilities brings forward a hybrid of possibilities. Rather than depicting what is, Beards offers a vision of what could be.

The Morris Graves Museum of Art, located at 636 F Street, Eureka is open to the public noon-5p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. Museum admission is by donation: \$4 for adults, \$1 for seniors age 55 and older; HAC Members and children age 12 and under are admitted free. Admission is always free for everyone during each First Saturday Arts Alive!, 6-9 p.m.

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