

ESOPUS SPACE

THE ESOPUS FOUNDATION LTD.

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“SIDE BY SIDE”

October 27 – December 17, 2009

Opening reception: Tuesday, October 27, 6–9 p.m.

Esopus Space is pleased to present “SIDE BY SIDE,” a group exhibition featuring **Jeff Gibson, Oliver Herring, Peter Krashes, Alex Masket, and Mickey Smith**. All five artists are contributors to the 13th issue of *Esopus*, due on newsstands November 1.

Multimedia artist **Oliver Herring** and painter **Peter Krashes** opened *Esopus 13* with an artists’ project exploring the connections between their work over the course of their 24 years together. Each spread of the 20-page project consisted of a “conversation” between two artworks—one by each artist—appearing on facing pages. To bring this approach into three dimensions for the exhibition, Herring has created a new video compilation of the improvisational and participatory TASK events he has organized since 2002 in locations around the world, while Krashes, who has become a community activist over the past several years, contributes a recent painting that references a rally he helped to organize in Brooklyn.

Jeff Gibson shows four images from his series *Sarsaparilla to Sorcery*. Each work couples appropriated imagery from 20th-century encyclopedias with Gibson’s own abstract photographic images (an approach also explored to great effect in his “Encyclopaedia Pareidolia” project for *Esopus 13*). **Mickey Smith** contributes the large-scale diptych *Collocation #6 (EBONY)*, 2008. The piece is from her acclaimed “Volume” series, which features juxtapositions of monumental photographs of bound periodicals from libraries around the world (the series is also the source of Smith’s extraordinary project for the issue).

The exhibition is rounded out with several works by **Alex Masket**, a severely autistic and prodigiously talented 22-year-old whose collages—composed of everything from duct tape to press-on letters—are featured in *Esopus 13*. Masket’s *Untitled (Black Corner)*, 2008, which is reproduced on the front and back covers of the issue, is shown here with several collages on paper created by the artist earlier this year. This exhibition represents Masket’s New York City debut.

Esopus Space is an exhibition and performance venue operated by the Esopus Foundation Ltd., which also publishes *Esopus* magazine. It is open to the public Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 11-5pm, and also by appointment. For more information, visit the Esopus Space [website](http://space@esopusfoundation.org), send inquiries to space@esopusfoundation.org, or call Tod Lippy at 212-473-0919.

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