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**THE SAATCHI GALLERY**

## EYAL PINKAS: SAATCHI ONLINE CRITIC'S CHOICE BY LEIGH ROBB

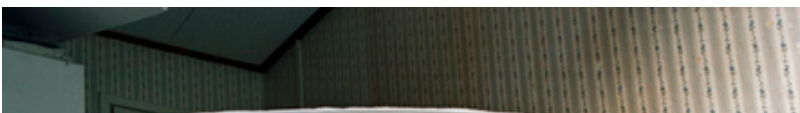
'The Landing #1', 2007  
100 x 120 cm  
Photograph



'The Landing #2', 2007  
100 x 120 cm  
Photograph



'The Landing #3', 2007  
100 x 120 cm  
Photograph



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'The Landing #4', 2007  
100 x 120 cm  
Photograph



Eyal Pinkas (b.1980, Haifa, Israel) is a photographer and video artist based in Amsterdam. In his recent work, the artist takes everyday objects such as chairs and mattresses and dexterously manipulates them into fantastical yet elegant compositions, which he then photographs. The camera becomes the means by which to document these studies into the alternative identity of objects. By releasing these everyday pieces of furniture from their domestic responsibilities, Pinkas is transgressing traditional systems of classification and offering up alternative and compelling environments.

'The Landing' (2007), is a series of four photographs taken in different bedrooms, each featuring a physically contorted, displaced mattress. The wooden bed frame has similarly renounced its function and becomes another prop in a comic domestic adventure. In one of the photographs the mattress is impaled upon wooden pickets, in another the mattress bows and wedges itself comfortably within its tailor-made station. Under Pinkas's scrutiny, in 'The Landing' such a graceless and unmanageable object becomes full of potential. It could equally be a landing pad prepared for an unknown arrival, or it has just landed, an awkward spacecraft that has somehow manoeuvred itself into in its wall-papered hangar.

The often humorous quotidian theatre Pinkas stages within his photographs shares much of the lateral strategy and inventiveness associated with Richard Wentworth and Fischli & Weiss. Underpinning Eyal Pinkas's photographs of playful, idiosyncratic assemblages is a logic by which the artist systematically studies the shifting identity of objects and subtly changes our understanding of them.

Eyal Pinkas completed his BA at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy, Amsterdam (2003-2007). In 2008, his work was included in 'New Visions', Kunsthau Essen, Germany; 'F/Stop', 2nd International Photography Festival, Leipzig; 'The Polaroid Show', The Apartment Gallery, Amsterdam and he completed a site specific video installation at Ketelhuis, Amsterdam as part of 'Filmsreal', Israeli Film Festival.

To view his profile page on Saatchi Online [click here](#), and visit the artist's own website, [www.eyalpinkas.com](http://www.eyalpinkas.com).

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Leigh Robb

After working at the Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane and the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, Leigh Robb is now based in London as Associate Director at Thomas Dane Gallery.

Posted by editorial on January 12, 2009 04:11 AM | Add a Comment

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