

# SICARDI GALLERY

GABRIEL DE LA MORA  
T.O.E.F.M.U.T.I.T.O.A.I.I.\*

November 9 - December 22, 2012  
Opening Reception with the Artist  
Friday, November 9, 6-8 p.m.



Gabriel de la Mora, Pomona 36 II D, 2012, Plafond from 1904 building, 76.2" x 97.5" x 1.4"

Sicardi Gallery is pleased to announce T.O.E.F.M.U.T.I.T.O.A.I.I.\*, our second exhibition of work by Mexican artist Gabriel de la Mora. The show opens on Friday, November 9th, with cocktail reception from 6 to 8 p.m. The artist will be in attendance.

Trained as an architect and a painter, Gabriel de la Mora is known for conceptual works that straddle a wide spectrum of media and techniques. In this exhibition, central themes and traits that characterize his oeuvre are emphasized, including a

fascination for the phenomenological attributes of painting, an attraction to very specific and often found materials, and an exhaustive attention to detail. His work questions—and experiments with—the interstitial limits between painting, drawing and sculpture, as well as the tension between formal procedures and conceptual methodologies. In his hands, the material residue of a symbolic experience becomes a record prone to abstraction.

The title work in the exhibition, T.O.E.F.M.U.T.I.T.O.A.I.I.\*, takes its name from a quote from Oscar Wilde's novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, "The only excuse for making a useless thing is that one admires it intensely.\*" It is a blank, unpainted canvas strategically burned by the artist. Much like other pieces in this exhibition including conceptual reconstructions of crumbling plafonds, re-appropriated propaganda posters and photographic interventions, the work remains suspended in a state just previous to its own disappearance. The artist alchemically re-inscribes these residues, submitting the past to the hermeneutic scrutiny of the present. This is a formal and conceptual quality that defines much of de la Mora's work: an aesthetic of ruin that exists on the verge of evaporation.

Born in Colima, Mexico, in 1968, de la Mora received a BA in Architecture with honors from Universidad Anahuac del Norte, Mexico City in 1991 and a MFA in Photography and Video from the Pratt Institute in New York in 2003. His work is included in numerous public and private collections, among them the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; El Museo del Barrio, New York; the Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico City; and the Fundacion/Coleccion Jumex, Mexico City. Gabriel de la Mora lives and works in Mexico City.

For more information, contact Sicardi Gallery at [info@sicardi.com](mailto:info@sicardi.com) or call 713.529.1313. Visit our website [www.sicardigallery.com](http://www.sicardigallery.com).