

## **William King | New Sculpture**

March 6 through April 5, 2008

Reception for the artist Saturday, March 8, from 2 to 4 pm

The gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of new sculpture by William King. This show will include eighteen new works in two mediums, wood and vinyl, and marks the first New York exhibition of new work by the artist in eight years.

Now eighty-two, William King has been showing figurative sculpture on a regular basis in New York for over fifty years. His familiar, often long-legged, figures embody a unique blend of social satire, fantasy, and an affectionate eye for everyday life, and have long been recognized as a distinctive contribution to American art. These witty figures, often self-portraits in various guises, combine precise observation about the body language of contemporary life and social situations with an almost abstract feeling for materials and form. Included will be six life-sized vinyl figures, six vinyl busts from the series titled "Politics," and painted wood carvings of both heads and figures. King began to make sculpture with soft materials, such as vinyl and burlap, in the summer of 1959.

King's work has been the subject of over 60 one-person exhibitions. Last season the gallery presented a survey exhibition of King's work from the 1950s, "The Early Work of William King," organized by Sanford Schwartz. Two previous exhibitions at the gallery focused on King's terra cottas.

The artist lives and works in East Hampton. He is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and a past president of the National Academy. King's earliest one-person shows were with the Alan Gallery, New York, starting in 1954. The majority of his subsequent New York exhibitions were with Terry Dintenfass Gallery. His work is in major public collections including the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, among others.