

# Eleven Rivington

**The New York Times**

## Art in Review

By THE NEW YORK TIMES  
Published: November 6, 2008

**HILARY BERSETH/  
Kevin Zucker**  
**Reverse Turing Tests**

*Eleven Rivington*  
11 Rivington Street, Lower East Side  
Through Sunday

The art in this well-matched pair of solo projects is all about collaboration. Hilary Berseth works with colonies of [bees](#); Kevin Zucker harnesses the hive mind of the young, contemporary art world.

In a novel twist on process art, Mr. Berseth cedes control of his abstract sculptures to organic and inorganic systems. For one fascinating group of works he has placed wax and wire armatures in specially designed beehives. The resulting objects, to paraphrase the news release, are part human-made and part bee-made. Their curved honeycombs resemble sand-drip castles, pinwheels and stalagmites, and have a sickly sweet smell.

Mr. Berseth achieves a similar hybrid creativity by steeping his sculptures in a chemical bath. In two works, electrochemical deposits of copper form barnacle-like growths on metal bases. (Picture a Brancusi or a Giacometti left out in the rain.)

Paintings by Mr. Zucker, showing small artworks floating on metal shelves, serve as an appropriately scientific background for Mr. Berseth's sculptures. Mr. Zucker asked other artists to respond to a particular theme — "Monumental Sculpture," for instance, or "Academic Still Life." He then "shelved" their contributions by means of inkjet print, just as he reproduced his own collection of images and 3-D models in an earlier body of work.

The project is best taken as a Who's Who of the post-M.F.A. set. Mr. Zucker's burst of archival activity suggests procrastination or an underlying restlessness; maybe he should think about organizing a show. **KAREN ROSENBERG**