



Press pack

**Cristin Richard**

*Domesticate Me*

With **Lydie Vareilhes**  
from Opéra de Paris

Opening **Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011**  
From 2 to 8 pm

La Découpe, **Artistic**  
**Experimental Platform**

Exhibition from April 2<sup>nd</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> 2011  
By appointment only.  
Tel. : 06 99 91 80 19  
[www.ladecoupe.org](http://www.ladecoupe.org)  
[info@ladecoupe.org](mailto:info@ladecoupe.org)



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Press release - March 15<sup>th</sup> 2011

# CRISTIN RICHARD *DOMESTICATE ME*

Opening Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011 from 2pm to 8pm  
With Lydie Vareilhes from Opéra de Paris

La Découpe is pleased to present *Domesticate me*, the first exhibition in France of Cristin Richard, a young American artist from Detroit, Michigan.

Using sculpture, Cristin Richard investigates a wide range of artistic, psychological and sociological topics. Her works question identity, female sexuality and standards.

Inspired by Magdalena Abakanowicz and Eva Hesse, she is particularly interested in using raw materials as a sensual communication tool. With an amazing attention to detail, Cristin Richard turns her favorite material (sausage casing) into delicate dresses, lingerie and high heel shoes...

Experimenting with colour, texture and transparency allows her to transform that repulsive material into something beautiful. Her sculptures are often complex metaphors of women's roles in society. Some pieces by Cristin Richard can also be worn, which transforms that experience into a whole performance. Furthermore, a unique performance will be presented during the opening, on Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup>, on a music composed by Czarling.

For her exhibition at La Découpe, and after a month of residence, the artist has chosen to introduce unique and original pieces, ironically questioning the duties of the housewife. Her works, based around the idea of domestication of the female body in its interior, will be presented in different rooms of the apartment / gallery.

Cristin Richard was born in 1981 in Detroit (MI), USA, where she currently lives and works. She has taken part in many art shows in the States and her work is amongst several major American collections.

*Two pieces are also shown in preview at L'Hôtel Particulier, 23 avenue Junot, 75018 Paris.  
www.hotel-particulier-montmartre.com. Special thanks to Morgane Rousseau.*

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## "CASING COUTURE" CRISTIN RICHARD'S HOUSE OF RAW (EXTRACTS)



Richard initially studied Industrial Design at College for Creative Studies (Detroit, MI), then switched into the world of Fibers. Through instructor Susan Aaron-Taylor's direction, she experimented with all types of mediums for design.

"She basically told us that everything around you is fiber and you can work with anything. That's where you're like, 'OK, let me see what I can do with this.' That's always kind of interested me – the whole idea of playing with your food, it's creepy in itself. It was great to take a material and handle it, manipulate it, transform it. It's that process of starting from scratch and making something, and that's what really got me into the casing."

Making clothing from casing, hadn't occurred until she visited an exhibit at the Detroit Institute of Arts Museum, featuring a translucent Inuit parka made from seal intestines, adorned with feathers and other natural materials.

"I really got into, 'How'd they do that? Why'd they do that?'" she says.

"Basically, like, they killed an animal and they could use anything. They wouldn't waste any bones, or they would carve those into tools, and the intestines just happened to be waterproof because they're from a water creature and they worked out well, so I tried to do the same sort of deal with playing around with cow and pig intestines. It took a while for me to try to figure out how to manipulate the material. I really loved how when it dried you can see the veins, all the weird inconsistencies. I like the fact that not everybody can work with it, too – like a lot of people get creeped out by it, so I can take ownership of it."

by Angela Wisniewski, Real Detroit Weekly, May 2010.

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# BIOGRAPHY OF CRISTIN RICHARD

CRISTIN RICHARD was born in 1981, Detroit (MI), USA.  
She lives and works in Detroit (MI), USA.

## / Education /

2003 College For Creative Studies School of Art & Design, BFA

## / Awards, Honors /

2008 Kresge Eminent Artist Award, Nomination  
2007 Cpopportunity, First Place  
2006 Annual: All Media Exhibition, Third Place  
2005 Michigan Fine Arts Competition, Honorable Mention  
1998-2003 College for Creative Studies Scholarship

## / Solo Exhibitions /

2011 *Domesticate Me*, La Découpe, Paris, France  
2009 *Come Play With Me*, There's Enough to go Around, The Burton Theatre, Detroit, MI  
2007 *Boll Family* YMCA Lobby, Detroit, MI  
2006 Robert Kidd Gallery, Birmingham, MI  
2005 *Second Series*, District Arts Gallery, Birmingham, MI  
2004 Inaugural Exhibition, District Arts Gallery, Birmingham, MI

## / Group Exhibitions /

2011 Design Show, Detroit Artist's Market, Detroit, MI  
2010 *Great Lakes Great Times*, Secret Project Robot, Brooklyn, NY  
2009 *Conformity Exhibition: Live Conformists Dead Troublemakers*, Cpop Gallery, Detroit, MI  
2008 *Wear That*, Anton Art Center, Mt. Clemens, MI.  
Fringe Festival, The Music Hall, Detroit, MI  
2007 *It's Humble to be Good*, Cpop Gallery, Detroit, MI  
C popportunity, Juried Exhibition, Cpop Gallery, Detroit, MI  
2006 Annual: All Media Exhibition, Juried Exhibition, Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI  
*Miss October*, The Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI  
2005 8th International Open, Juried Exhibition, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*The Dirty Show*, Juried Exhibition, Tangent Gallery, Detroit, MI  
Michigan Fine Arts Competition, Juried exhibition, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Birmingham, MI  
*Devils and Dolls*, Juried Exhibition, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL  
2004 *The Dirty Show*, Juried Show, Tangent Gallery, Detroit, MI  
Design Show, Detroit Artist's Market, Detroit, MI  
2003 BA Thesis Exhibition, College for Creative Studies, Detroit, MI  
2002 *Entangled Identities*, U245 Gallery, College for Creative Studies, Detroit, MI

## / Bibliography /

2010 Angela Wisniewski, "Couture In the Raw", 944, Detroit, MI. October issue.  
Louis Meldman, "Genius Among us", Current, Chicago, IL. May 24.  
Angela Wisniewski, "Casing Couture, Cristin Richard's House of Raw", Real Detroit Weekly, Detroit, MI. May 19-25.  
2009 Norene Smith, "Gutsy Art", The Metro Times, Detroit, MI. March 4.  
2008 Erin Chan Ding, "A Nice Group of Weirdos", The Freepress, Detroit, MI. April 3.  
2005 Gerry Craig, "Peeling Back the Layers, Artists Get Comfy in Their Skins", The Metro Times, Detroit, MI. October 12-18.  
Linda Bachrack, "TriPLICATE", Style Magazine, Southfield, MI. August issue.  
Polly Ulrich, "Devils and Dolls Review", Fiber Arts Magazine, Loveland, CO. June/July issue.  
2004 Keri Guten Cohen, "District Arts Gallery opens in Birmingham", Detroit Free Press., Detroit, MI. March 21.  
Nick Sousanis, "District Arts-Premiere", thedetroiter.com, Detroit, MI. March 25.  
Joy Hakanson Colby, "Art Picture Changes in Birmingham", Detroit Free Press, Detroit, MI. March 2.  
Lisa M. Collins, "Groom & Board; Detroit Artist's Market presents Furniture & fashion Peep Show", The Metro Times, Detroit, MI. January 20.  
Nick Sousanis, "The Design Show", thedetroiter.com, Detroit, MI. January 19.



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## IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR PUBLICATION

(All images are courtesy the artist and la Découpe)



*Playmates*, 2006  
Sausage casing, resin, pigment, acrylic medium  
Each dress 66 x 66 x 77 cm - 26 x 26 x 30 inches

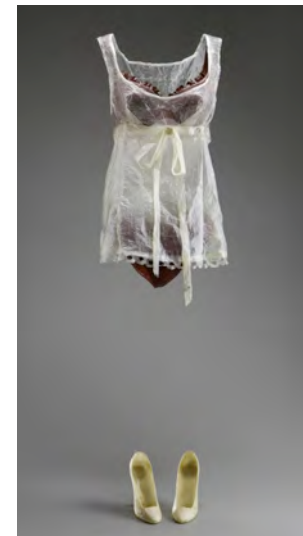


*Support Group*, 2007  
Sausage casing, resin  
77 x 16 x 51 cm - 30 x 6 x 20 inches



*Late Bloomer*, 2005 (detail)  
Sausage casing, resin, pigment, acrylic medium  
92 x 102 x 143 cm - 36 x 40 x 4'8 inches

*Late Bloomer*, 2005  
Sausage casing, resin, pigment, acrylic medium  
92 x 102 x 143 cm - 36 x 40 x 4'8 inches



*Untitled*, 2006  
Sausage casing, resin, pigment,  
acrylic medium  
41 x 31 x 153 cm - 16 x 12 x 50 inches



*Centerfold*, 2007  
Sausage casing, resin, pigment, acrylic medium  
15 x 18 x 23 cm - 60 x 70 x 90 inches

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION



Entrance of La Découpe and Zelda Georgel's exhibition view, December 2010.



### La Découpe

Co-founded by Kenza Amrouk and Magali Magistry in June 2010, La Découpe is an Artistic Experimental Platform.

La Découpe is a non-profit private space based in Paris, governed by the french law of July 1st 1901.

### Dates

Opening Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011  
from 2pm to 8pm

Exhibition until April 15<sup>th</sup> 2011  
Visits by appointment only

### Contact

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