

E.K. Clark, "Malachi Farrell." *The New York Art World* (December 2005)



Malachi Farrell *Nothing Stops a New Yorker*, 2005. Installation & sound, 7 minutes. Variable Dimensions. Photograph: Natsuko Uchino & Tom Pöwel Imaging. Courtesy: Thrust Projects, New York

Malachi Farrell

Thrust Projects

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By E.K. Clark

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Malachi Farrell's *Nothing Stops a New Yorker*, an installation comprised of crumpled brown paper bags and empty cardboard boxes piled on the gallery floor, suggests a wacky confusion; until you find the cardboard skyscrapers that rise majestically above the detritus, animated by projecting arms which move smartly to the instructions of a hilarious exercise tape. The second part of the tape, taken from film director Michael Moore's docu-satire of the 9/11 disaster, takes on a more somber note. What is happening to our liberty, our individuality; as we are manipulated by the powers that be? — the artist seems to be asking.

Farrell is known for his kinetic installations and robotic figures; employing technology and familiar materials in his performing sculptures, he probes social and political issues. In this ironic tribute to New York City, he speaks to us on a visceral level with wit and humor, while investigating the underbelly of the beast.

10/27 through 12/20.

Ed Note: Thrust Projects is located at 114 Bowery #301, New York NY 10013. Tel 212-431-4802