

# i-D

## helmut lang's first new york solo art show opens



By Stuart Brumfitt  
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Following his retirement from fashion in 2005, Helmut Lang has devoted the last 10 years to his artistic practice, but few people have seen anything of his art. He's shown variously in Berlin, Paris, East Hampton, Hanover and Brooklyn, and collaborated with big-wigs Louise Bourgeois and Jenny Holzer, but his art world profile has never quite matched the one he created through clothes. Perhaps his first New York solo show at Sperone Westwater will be a step towards changing that.

The exhibition of sculptures demonstrates his continued interest in materials and textures, including cardboard, string and tape. He's assembled them from diverse sources (he prefers materials "with a certain history, elements with irreplaceable presence and with scars and memories of a former purpose") and repurposed them into new forms.

There are nearly 200 pillar-like sculptures - some measuring between 10 and 12 feet - which exude an organic quality, a starting point for a larger meditation on acts of creative destruction and gestures of renewal. A series of wall sculptures, composed of resin and pigment pressed together in plankton-like sheets, offers a delicate contrast to the taut pillars.

8th January - 21st February, Sperone Westwater, New York.

[speronewestwater.com](http://speronewestwater.com)

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All images courtesy the artist and Sperone Westwater, New York