Josh Blackwell

Born 1972
Lives New York

Josh Blackwell works with vintage patterned scarves and handkerchiefs – often selecting ones with visible holes or stains – but he doesn’t treat them as intact found objects, nor aim to transform them completely. Rather, he highlights the tension between their dual roles as fashion accessories and art objects – as well as the pictorial tension between figure and ground, flatness and depth. Using dressmaking pins, he attaches bits of painted paper or felt to the scarves. In *Cat Face* (2003) gouache-and-ink feline faces evoke carnival masks, while in the more anarchic *Democrats to Donkeys* (2003) red, white and blue scraps are layered so that they seem to spin, generating centrifugal energy. (KJ)

Shown by Kate MacGarry F7

Selected Bibliography
2005 ‘Blackwell: Maschere e Foulard’ (Blackwell: Masks and Scarves), Paola Noe, *Mood*, 82

Selected Exhibitions
2005 Galleria Alessandro de Marchi, Milan
2004 Kate MacGarry, London
2003 Mary Goldman Gallery, Los Angeles
2001 Sarah Melzer Gallery, New York
1999 ‘The Shape of Pairs to Come’, D301 Gallery, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia