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# Visiting Artists | Tom Burr

CULTURE | By JOHNNY MISHEFF | MARCH 28, 2011, 10:00 AM



Tom Burr's delicately considered work comes in many forms. Recently he's been meticulously fastening blankets of various sizes, colors and textures with upholstery tacks to large, 6-foot-by-6-foot wooden panels. Another favorite medium is radiators. On view in his studio at this moment are four or five of them, which were sourced from a massive lot in New England and have all been treated to look similarly worn. One such radiator sits on a simple pedestal and is dressed in the artist's favorite old, gray Margiela sport coat. This subtle piece is distinctly not over the top, but it definitely takes you somewhere.

Burr is just settling into a new studio above the Chelsea Market and plans to be here for the long haul. After having worked in the solace of a barn in Connecticut for the past few years, he must find the city to be a major change of pace. But apparently this pace is what he needed, considering that he had only a few weeks to complete all of the work for the April 8 opening of an exhibition at [Almine Rech Gallery](#) in Brussels. Burr is also part of the [Smithson Effect](#), a group show at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts. Or catch him here in the city at [Bortolami](#), where his works "Black Lab" and "Oblong Box #2" are on view through April 2.

**Name:** Tom Burr

**Place of origin:** New Haven

**Current location:** New York

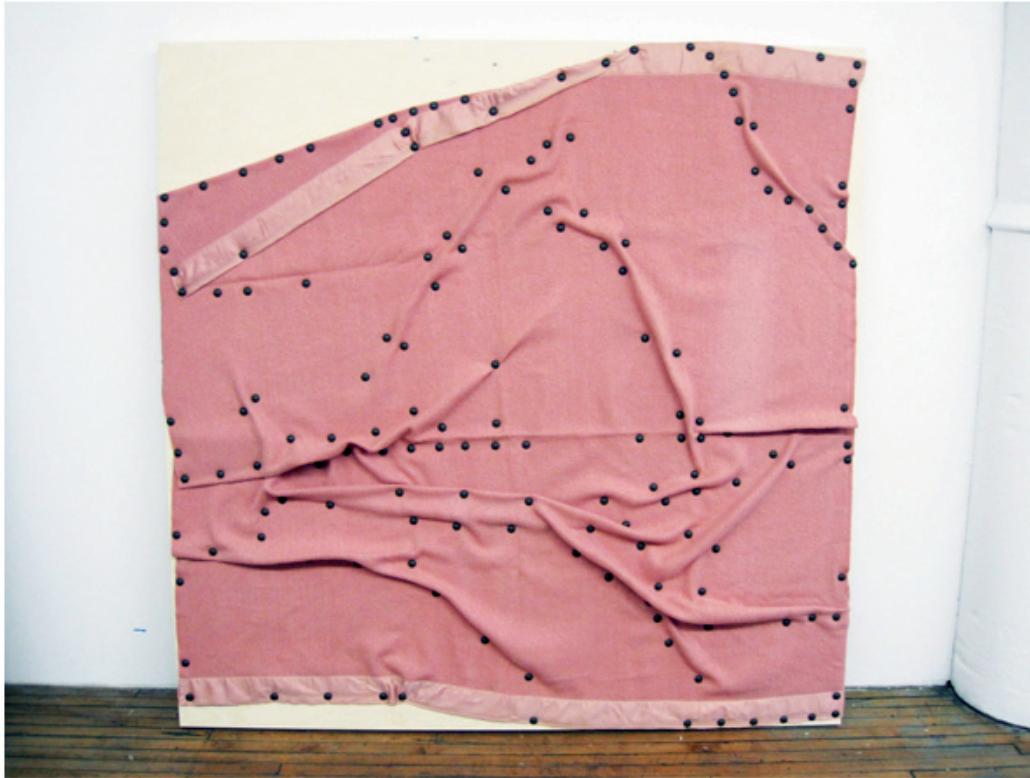
**Preferred medium:** A fairly wide but focused spectrum that includes but is not limited to wood, paint, fabric, hardware, plastic, mirror, paper, occasional images (usually found), books, chairs, lamps, clothing, ladders, doors and radiators.

**Current project:** The continuation of a new body of work that is being shown at the Frac Champagne-Ardenne, in France, and at Galerie Almine Rech, in Brussels. The two exhibitions, "Gravity Moves Me" and "felt under fingers," are my meditations on weight, tactility and the fluctuating temperature of objects.

**Motto:** I am motto-less for the time being.

**Best thing I've seen lately, not my own:** I saw the Mondrian exhibition in Paris, which was dazzling but exhausting, but the re-creation of his studio captured my imagination completely. I squeezed through the throngs to experience this guilty pleasure. If I had stayed longer I would have seen the General Idea show there as well, and that would have been my answer, I'm sure.

**Any hidden talents:** Yes



"Dirty Pink Blanket." Photographs by Johnny Misheff







Inside Tom Burr's studio.

