

Biography

Rune Olsen is an accomplished sculptor and installation artist born in Norway. Currently living in New York, he is a *2009 fellow in Sculpture* from the **New York Foundation for the Arts**. Since his first solo show in 1997 at **Young Artists Association** in Oslo, Norway, he has exhibited widely in galleries and museums throughout the U.S. and Europe, including **Bronx Museum of The Arts, Islip Art Museum, Jones Center for Contemporary Art, Aljira Center for Contemporary Art, Smack Mellon** and **Exit Art**. His life-size sculptures of people and animals, which examine the interplay among desire, power structures and society, was exhibited in the 2005 **Istanbul Biennial** and included in 2006 at **Hillwood Art Museum's Archival to Contemporary: Six Decades of the Sculptors Guild**. In 2007 Rune Olsen had a critically acclaimed solo show with **Samson Projects** in Boston. In 2008 he was included in *The Drawing Biennial* at **Kunstneres Hus** in Oslo.

Since graduating from the prestigious **Goldsmith College** in 1999 in London, Rune Olsen has won over 12 awards from The Norwegian Government, including the *Emerging grant* in 1997, the *Establishing grant* in 1999 and from 2003-2006 a distinguished *Three-year work grant for young and emerging artists*. He was in 2005 awarded the **New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship** and a studio residency with **Artist Alliance**. In 2006 Rune Olsen was granted a place at the renowned **Art Omi International Artists Residency** and in 2009 the **Sculpture Space** residency. His work has been reviewed and the subject of articles in **Art in America, Art-Forum, and Sculpture Magazine**. In 2008 Rune Olsen teamed up with 12 scholars - creating five new sculpture groups for the pioneering exhibit *The Sex Lives of Animals* at **The Museum of Sex** in New York.