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## MODERNPAINTERS

### Private View: Fine Young Cannibal



by Meghan Dailey

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Riffing on the act of riffing, Nathan Mabry deftly samples art-historical references, producing figures inspired by Baga Nimba masks resting on Minimalist bases, for instance. The centerpiece of his third solo outing at Cherry and Martin, from January 8 through February 12, is "Weeping Figure," a fountain cast in reclaimed aluminum and based on a 1920s Jacques Lipchitz sculpture that itself liberally appropriates West African art. Mabry has always been fascinated by modernism's "cannibalism of ethnographic imagery." His fountain's trickling tears also bring to mind Picasso's "Weeping Women," but more important than specific precedents, Mabry says, is "an overall sense of déjà vu, from the recycling of the alloy to the recycling of the imagery."