

LAURA BARTLETT GALLERY

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LYDIA GIFFORD, MANUELA LEINHOS, LAURA RIBOLI / LAURA BARTLETT GALLERY

This is a lovely little show (with no stated conceptual theme) in Laura Bartlett's slightly oddly proportioned gallery. Lydia Gifford has made small architectural interventions that meet me as I walk in the door and follow me along the angled walls. They are different forms of *Roost* (2010), each tiny perch less tangible than the last. One is polystyrene painted grey, another simply a pin in the wall, with paint glancing over the point of impact. Downstairs are some films from Riboli of gymnasts moving around their hoops and balls in a way that so fully and beautifully explores those two shapes and their relationship to a body. Perhaps the highlights are two sculptures from Manuela Leinhos. *They Have Clearly Declared Themselves* (2009) is a small box structure, almost the shape of a large half-open matchbox, screwed to the wall with a pink lumpy piece of clay inside. It almost looks like a box covered over by a duvet, and the top lid, which is also washed over with paint, looks like it is being peeled back. There are many elements of layering and screening here, which all extend from the physicality and handling of the material.