

Art in Review; NY Times

## John Isaacs -- are you like me full of hope and full of fear

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Published: January 20, 2006

Feigen Contemporary  
535 West 20th Street, Chelsea  
Through Feb. 4

A concerned yet witty cynic, the British artist John Isaacs exhibits five terse sculptures that look like one-liners but resonate beyond. The most striking is a giant wax hand, bloodily sawed off at the wrist, that points an authoritative, admonitory finger. Titled "it is for you that I do this," it aptly touches on the prevalence of self-righteousness in the world.

A forlorn plaster tree stump, painted the color of feces and lighted with a few bare bulbs, comments on the evils of consumerism and the disaster of ecological neglect, and a bloody severed shark fin titled "everyone's talking about Jesus" is meant to stand as a token of irrational belief linked to fear.

A short but hypnotic film shot at a California oil field depicts a huge installation of mechanical drills rhythmically but rapaciously working the ground like a field of locusts, their very motions suggesting the ravenous consumer appetites they can never really slake.

As an artist-polemicist, Mr. Isaacs may not be as forceful as, say, Goya, but he gets his points across.