

# PIEROGI

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# Ronald Feldman Fine Arts

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## **Tavares Strachan     Rocket Launch** **Press Release March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Tavares Strachan will launch the first rockets from his *Orthostatic Tolerance Project* between March 18<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in the Bahamian islands. The artist has plans to recover these eight-foot glass rockets, whether intact or in pieces, in order to create additional artwork. The glass for the rockets is manufactured by the artist from Bahamas island sand and powered by sugarcane fuel. The launch pads are produced in the artist's New York studio.

The rockets are a primary stage of the *Orthostatic* program, which will ultimately result in Strachan traveling into and returning from space in a large (approximately sixty to one-hundred-foot), self-built rocket. In preparation, the artist has already completed a program at a specialized space training center in the Republic of Kazakhstan. Strachan intends to launch himself into space within the next two to five years.

Following the launch, Strachan will reuse the recovered rockets and other material related to the *Orthostatic* program for an exhibition from April 23 through August 2, 2009 at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA. Video, drawings, photography, and sculpture document the launch and allow a glimpse into the future. Through the rubric of scientific exploration, Strachan engages both the resources and community of his home country and investigates environmental, cultural, historical, and postcolonial issues.

The artist is jointly represented by PIEROGI and Ronald Feldman Fine Arts. He has recently exhibited his work *Where We Are Is Always Miles Away* (a hermetically sealed slice of New Haven sidewalk) at the Ronald Feldman space in the 2009 ADAA Armory show on Park Avenue. He is currently exhibiting *The Distance Between What We Have and What We Want (Arctic Ice Project)* at the inaugural opening of PIEROGI's new space The Boiler in Williamsburg, NY.