

# ARTINFO

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Emily Roysdon, "Surprise ... You're Pregnant!" (2007–09)

## Summer in the City: Group Shows

By Sarah Douglas

### "Character Generator" at Eleven Rivington, through August 14

"What do you read, my lord?" Polonius asks Hamlet. "Words, words, words," the troubled prince replies, accurately, if mockingly, and it's words, whether typed on a typewriter, spoken in a video, or painted onto a rug, that are the meat of this achingly clever, impeccably installed show, curated by the **Kitchen's** Matthew Lyons. That Murakami over at Rental may be *très cher*, but it hardly compares to Ronald Reagan's 1983 budget, a cool \$770,000,000,000. That figure appears at the lower edge of one of Christopher Knowles's delicate, absorbing typewriter drawings from the '70s and '80s. (They call to mind similar, better-known works by Carl Andre.) A painting by Matthew Cerletty depicts, in varying fonts and scripts, the strangely evocative nonsense phrase "Not to the fact that who reads them." The press release slyly describes Emily Roysdon's cunning little sculpture as "making a startling statement that begs follow-up questions." It's reproduced here (see the photo gallery), so, mea culpa, the cat's out of the bag.

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