

**Ruba
Katrib**
NEW YORK

Alisa Baremboym (b. 1982 in Moscow, lives and works in New York)

Alisa Baremboym creates sculptures out of ceramics, steel, gelled emollient, USB cables, digital prints on fabrics and other materials. Baremboym's sensibilities to her materials result in uncanny combinations of hard and soft, synthetic and organic. A table covered with a thick layer of gel emollient in *Leakage Industries: Clear Conduit* (2012), looks as though it could be an operating table displaying a grouping of abstracted unglazed ceramic forms. Casts of mechanical parts, drains and pipes, the objects look as if they could be prosthetics. A USB drive sinks through the sculptures on a cord, merging the mechanical and the digital, but also suggesting that there is virtual information within the sculpture. Through a merging of the organic and synthetic, Baremboym suggests anthropomorphic hybrids through her sculptures. Also, often referring back to mechanical industries, which are increasingly replaced by digital processes, Baremboym has made prints of machinery parts found in sausage factories. By isolating mechanical objects from their usual context, they become surreal fixtures that are at once familiar and strange. An image of a common colander or screw becomes unsettling when it is layered within a print, or when the object itself is covered in gel. Baremboym's works push the increasingly shifting lines between what defines the organic and comments upon the accelerated synthetic quality of the human body.



Alisa Baremboym, *Leakage Industries: Clear Conduit*, Gelled emollient, unglazed ceramic, USB cable with gender changers, flash drive, hardware, 40 x 32 x 48 inches, 2012.
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