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'Josh Kline: Quality of Life' at 47 Canal

By Will Heinrich 9/10 5:57pm



'Forever 27' (2013) by Josh Kline.
(Courtesy the artist and 47 Canal)

Josh Kline is excited about the future. More specifically, he's excited about the 3-D-printed, brand-saturated, Internet-addled pharmaceutical singularity of nano-abundance and clean, white surfaces that's coming on like the end of the world. It's a future in which computer-assisted personal immortality meets the final dissolution of personality and everyone will be alive for 15

minutes. So he has made hollow, 3-D-printed busts of several fashion designers, colored in their signature prints, and displayed the busts on translucent pedestals like handbags in an upscale boutique; he has doped pig's blood with Welbutrin and agave, to be stored in clear, cast urethane replicas of Rubbermaid coolers; he has one-upped Blueprint Juices with IV drips of spirulina, Red Bull and gasoline; and he has shot TV magazine-style interviews with Kurt Cobain and Whitney Houston, using the singers' own faces digitally mapped onto living actors. In *Forever 27*, Mr. Cobain sullenly explains that being with other people and being alone are equally bad; in *Forever 48*, Whitney Houston refuses to disassemble about how much she enjoyed cocaine when she was young. Is all of this magic for the good or bad? The distinction seems a little bit retro. (*Through Oct. 13*)