

BRIDGE

Art/Literature/Poetry/Film/Music/Culture

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Rona Pondick
Monkey with Hair, 2002-03
Courtesy of Sonnabend Gallery

CLEVELAND

Rona Pondick: "Recent Work" at MOCA Cleveland

New York sculptor Rona Pondick's work, exhibited in galleries and museums throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia, comes for the first time to Cleveland's Museum of Contemporary Art. Pondick uses metal, silicone rubber and sometimes hair to create fascinating pieces that morph parts of her own body with parts of animals, and address issues of the unconscious, self-exposure, and the self-portrait. The psychological bent of her work is undeniable, as she challenges the viewer to

confront the animal nature of human desires and urges in pieces such as *Monkeys* (1998-2001), which depicts eight primates clambering wildly over one another. Pondick does not attempt to project human consciousness onto the animal, but rather fuses together the disparate body parts, in ways that are often disturbing.