



119 Prefontaine Place South, Seattle, WA 98104 :: [www.punchgallery.org](http://www.punchgallery.org)

## PRESS RELEASE

Jan 28, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kill Date: Feb 28, 2009

Feb 5-28, 2009

Hours: Noon-5 pm, Thurs-Sat,

Or by appointment: [art@punchgallery.org](mailto:art@punchgallery.org)

PUNCH, 119 Prefontaine Place S.

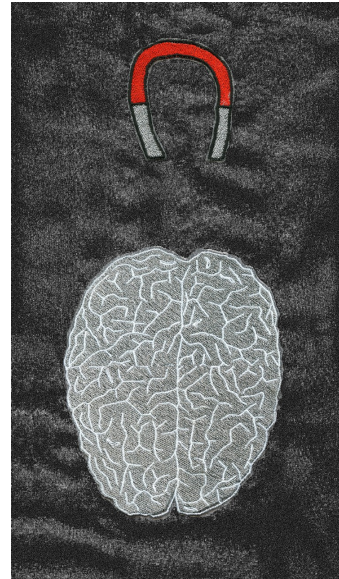
Seattle, WA 98104

[www.punchgallery.org](http://www.punchgallery.org), (206) 621-1945

**Opening Reception:**  
**Thursday, February 5, 5-8 pm**

## *Invisible Forces.*

new works **Ries Niemi**



*Something's Going On, 2009*

Saving his empties, embroidering on the hankies from a 100 year-old man's garage sale, and chewing his bread into the shape of guns, Ries Niemi is at the mercy of *Invisible Forces*.

He builds a gateway between the sacred and the profane from giant beer bottles.

He proudly proclaims his membership in the Blue Tarp Clan by making underwear from the ubiquitous building material.

And, like all true Americans, he is obsessed with guns.

This month at PUNCH, he is showing one man's ambivalent reaction to the modern world. Embroidery, fabric sculptures, forged ironwork, and painted liquor bottles together tell a story about middle age.

Niemi has been alternately in love with and tormented by pop culture since his first solo show in 1978 at Rosco Louie Gallery. He works with hard and soft, mixing blacksmithing and textiles into a curious *mélange*. Soft and Hard. Male and Female. Funky and Slick.

He just can't decide.

Too Much is Never Enough.