

133 TECUMSETH STREET
TORONTO ONTARIO M6J 2H2 CANADA 416 554 4112

THE GLOBE AND MAIL | ARTS

Pressure points, pivot points, tipping points
Ross Bell at Georgia Scherman Projects

GARY MICHAEL DAULT

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\$750-\$15,000. Until Dec. 19,

133 Tecumseth St., Toronto; 416-554-4112, <http://www.georgiascherman.com>

Given the likelihood that Googling "hypercube" will make your head hurt (so much high algebra, so many runic equations), it's a relief to go see sculptor Ross Bell's wonderfully authoritative and almost offhand dalliance with this perplexing and engaging form. Central to his wittily titled exhibition, *Strip Cube*, is an eight-foot hypercube made of plywood, the interior edges of its axial beams lined with mirrored stainless steel. To enter this cunningly wrought geometric environment is thus to be endlessly duplicated and appropriately dazzled. Adjacent to this giant hypercube are other, smaller floor models of it - all oddly evocative of the work of certain minimalist sculptors of the 1960s (Donald Judd, Robert Smithson). Of almost equal interest are Bell's series of wall-mounted "paintings" using carpet strips, assemblages of materials harvested from art packers; packing cases and, sometimes, cast-off museum frames: deadpan beauty so abject it shoulders its way into pictorial significance.