Christopher P. McManus

[http://hairanddiamonds.com](http://hairanddiamonds.com/)

*Reptilian Alien Head*

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Paper mâché, gesso, acrylic

In movies, we know the CGI beast will be defeated despite how powerful it appears to be. The countless hours a team of animators have put into its creation always comes to a similar end. After a fantastic display of super strength, after a gruesome show of vitality, after we hear the monstrous scream, the hero is inevitably victorious.

In this piece, the beast is a reptilian alien. It's been decapitated in some absurdly matched battle. Its head lies on the ground. As Michael Haneke shows us in *Funny Games*, the audience is complicit; bloodthirsty, we don't give much more thought to what's dead, even when it doesn't make any sense. Why isn't the beast victorious? Why isn't the movie as inventive as the monster? Instead the beast, a creation of intense labor, gives way to the same, expected, ending.

Christopher P. McManus is a sculptor and video artist. He created [**Hair and Diamonds**](http://hairanddiamonds.com/) to experiment with video, animation, and puppetry. Contact Christopher: [**hairanddiamonds@gHYPERLINK "mailto:hairanddiamonds@gmail.com"mail.com**](mailto:hairanddiamonds@gmail.com)