



## ARTNET NEWS

Jan. 13, 2009

### **KAWS & KANYE IN TIMES SQUARE**

The young street artist widely known as **KAWS**, who had his first gallery show at **Gering & López** in Manhattan last month, now has work on view in a more mass-market venue -- a Times Square billboard advertising the new album by hip-hop artist **Kanye West**. In the billboard, West is held in the coils of KAWS' signature creature, a kind of skull-headed snake. "Art Wins!" wrote the irrepressible musician on his **blog**. KAWS, who has his own clothes line and a shop in Tokyo (both dubbed **OriginalFake**), is slated for a solo show at the **Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum** in 2010. As for West, his interest in art is a longstanding one: His last album cover was designed by **Takashi Murakami**.

by Walter Robinson