

MATERIAL MUSINGS

an exploration of media and process

August 23, 2017 – January 12, 2018



Meghan Shimek, *Untitled*, 2017, wool, 50 x 38 inches

Material Musings is a group exhibition featuring 8 artists who explore diverse mediums and ornate processes within subdued or highly controlled color palettes. The works exhibited do not rely on bold, commanding color to convey a point or hold a strong presence. Instead they draw on the experimentation and experience of form and texture. In turn, the works seek to provoke contemplation of the origin, material, construction, and process.

In Meghan Shimek's playful, densely woven *Solid Series*, her plush constructions of wool meander in and out, elevating craft-based artwork from "eye-candy" to visual therapy. Shimek's work is soft, intricate and well-constructed; delicate to the eyes yet durable in form. On the opposite facing wall, Delaney Smith's fine paper composition subtly references phenomena experienced in nature such as a hazy landscapes or fibrous clouds. Both of these artists possess an inherent connection to their materials, and masterful control over texture variations and irregularities within their sprawling organic forms.

Margaux Crump's salt crystal drawings are deeply process oriented. These quietly scaled compositions entail silk sheets submerged into highly saturated salt baths, incubating salt forms to latch and develop on the surface resulting in "drawings." Crump then renders the surface with make-up pigment, offering her work both authentic and illusion of life. The pigment provides flesh-like shades that feel familiar, speaking to the viewer's own self-awareness. Crump's softly colored and coarsely textured surfaces reflect the experimentation captured in Liz Hickok's prints, documenting crystal-forming chemical growths on various materials. Hickok's compositions are a play on scale, drawing in elements found within nature and architecture to create illusions to the viewer, and also feelings of familiarity. The simple elegance of Crump and Hickok's work invites intimate observation, and even reverie.

Anthony Sonnenberg's lavishly texturized ceramic sculptures evoke a sense of kitsch and nostalgia through his use of found materials dripping in porcelain. These luscious forms are complimented by Bennie Flores Ansell's site-specific installation made of hand cut slide film sprockets on the back wall. Both Sonnenberg and Ansell's works embody physicality and tactility through the employment of vastly different materials. The viewer can envision the robust and involved motions made by the artists while rendering these organic yet confident forms. Much like the accompanied artists in *Material Musings*, their unique textures create a strong presence, and the lack of domineering color fully immerses the viewer into the mediums.

This exhibition is organized by Kinzelman Art Consulting on behalf of the owners of Bank of America Center and M-M Properties. Works loaned courtesy of Capsule Gallery, Conduit Gallery, Art Palace and the Artists. For additional information about the exhibition, please call Kinzelman Art Consulting at 713.533.9923 or visit www.kinzelmanart.com.