



No Fate But What We Make

21 February - 29 March 2014

Clough-Hanson Gallery at Rhodes College

Book of Hours (detail), Corkey Sinks

Featured Artists and Collaborators

Elijah Burgher | Jesse Butcher | Sr. Soami deLux | Edie Fake | Gordon Hall
Ivan Lozano | Matt Morris | Mark Pilgrim | Soo Shin | Corkey Sinks

Supplications on Behalf of an Exhibition

Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Eva Hesse, Love, Merce Cunningham, John Cage, Mike Kelley, Aleister Crowley, Gertrude Stein, Hestia, Energy, Mark Aguhar, Joseph Beuys, Frank O'Hara, Louise Nevelson, Eric Rhodes, Light, Fred Sandback, Agnes Martin, Freddy Mercury, Harry Hay, Divine, the Divine, Color, Dust,

We know that wherever two or more works of art are gathered together in your names, you are there among them. Here we've gathered objects of our own making that guide us in our search for powers beyond ourselves. Some are tools, some are spells, some are vessels. Some are totems, charms, conduits, or offerings. Some are so specific, encoded, or personal that they may only be used devotionally by one of us (although their residue certainly finds more generous applications). Many are rooted in the rejection or reconfiguration of known religious forms; catechisms make rich compost. All acknowledge a greater spirit (though they define it differently) and desire communion with it. This is art as physical magic, even more so than it usually is.

The evidence of things unseen fills the gallery, the scent of transubstantiation lingering like some sweet lavender smoke. Elijah's confident stroke turns erotic energy into magic. His sigils are at once a sign of intention and intention itself. So too are Mark and Edie's intricate drawings-cum-portals, in which time manifests itself as care and thought, the result of a focused energy that grants access to another plane.

Through devotion and discipline, Ivan translates digital source material into an aggressively lush *ex voto*, a votive offering made to a saint. Ivan's offering is made to Erik Rhodes, an outspoken porn star who died in 2012 at the age of 30. Nearby is another altar, composed of drawings, memorabilia, charms, and other ephemera from the collection of Sr. Soami deLux, a founding member of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and a former editor of RFD, a country journal celebrating queer diversity.

Spirits bless this sacred, vulgar space. Bless the cheap wine and bless the cheese and cookies from Costco, the blood and the body. Bless the narcissists. Forgive the righteous. Our sins are many and our faith trembles, but goddamnit, we're trying.

In this space we've made, doubt is worship too. Soo deconstructs received knowledge from her history with evangelical Christianity and reconfigures it into new truths. Jesse's proclamation is so confident that it can't possibly be true. Unless, of course, it is.

Much of the work is as inexplicable as faith. Matt and Gordon's, for example - should we try to divine it? Gordon folds space and time into objects that are at once generous gifts and inaccessible secrets. The communal is implied by the evidence of a completed ritual - not finished, but dormant. Matt's work seems to speak these things into the ether: light is a veil that reveals; desire can be rapture; our ability to perceive is greater than we know.

Finally, thankfully, Corkey offers pilgrims an area in which to pause, recharge, and meditate. Intellect meets intuition in this psycho-spiritual space, framed by the simultaneous logical and mystical qualities of geometry.

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1. *Battles of Possibility* | Soo Shin
mixed media on paper, 2013
2. *Untitled 4* | Elijah Burgher
acrylic on drop cloth, 2012
3. *Land of Many Uses* | Edie Fake
ink, and gouache on paper, 2013
4. *prism* | Matt Morris
mixed media, 2014
5. *Gateway (for Mark Aguhar)(Palace Door - calloutqueen)* | Edie Fake
ballpoint pen, ink, and gouache on paper, 2012
6. *Anatomy of a Prayer* | Soo Shin
inner tube, wood, industrial paint, 2013
7. *One door, only one* | Soo Shin
door frame (found), 2013
8. *With all the will in the world (for Roberto)* | Elijah Burgher
color pencil on paper, 2012
9. *No Fate But What We Make* | Jesse Butcher
vinyl banner, 2011
10. *Not One But Many Silences* | Gordon Hall
nineteen foot bleached canvas octagon, o-rings, wood, paint, photographic multiple, 2013/2014
11. *Untitled* | Mark Pilgrim
ballpoint pen on paper, 2007
12. *Fold* | Gordon Hall
dyed canvas, wood, paint, 2014
13. *(ERIK) Rhodes Ex Voto* | Ivan LOZANO
paper, acrylic medium, inkjet prints, tape, 2014
14. *west (inverted rainbows)* | Matt Morris
ruched grey voile, 2014
15. *Altar, composed of items from the collection of Sr. Soami deLux.*
16. *Reading Room: Chairs, Shelves, Pockets, Crystals, and Prints* | Corkey Sinks
plywood, hand-dyed canvas, industrial felt, masonite, vinyl mesh, grommets, commercially printed cardboard, hot glue, risograph on newsprint, 2014
17. *(ERIK) Rhodes Ex Voto* | Ivan LOZANO
digital video, 2014
18. *Self-Disclosures* | AA Bronson
digital pigment print, 2012
19. *west (inverted frowns)* | Matt Morris
ruched grey voile, 2014
(viewable by appointment)

