

POPPY'S

She Hated Haiku

16 April - 1 May, 2016

Opening 16 April, 3 - 6pm

A group exhibition marking the inauguration of Poppy's with Sanna Helena Berger, Rebecca Friedman, Dean Goldman, Alex Heilbron, Marc Matchak, Magdalena Mitterhofer, and Jaakko Pallasvu.

A haiku has a bizarre relationship regarding showing art, creativity and its constraints. I will spare your time in not offering any, to be read allegorically to the work or the project. Poppy's is small. There is no room for allegory or fictitious parallel. "She" is not Poppy. There are no persons named Poppy. Though "She Hated Haiku" assents to the Poppy's project optimistically. Any investiture has passed and the interiors must be considered more thoroughly. Domesticity and comfort persist in the air of room, which houses seven artists from near and far. The works are shown in a quieter city near the confluence of two rivers. Creative writing is not compulsory here.

She Hated Haiku is a comic both included in and eponymous with this exhibition. A drawing which is formally adolescent but lucid, and marked by sprawling personal philosophies in doodle offerings. Offerings of these sorts often go unspoken in the classroom, in the workplace, at the bar, or in the gallery. These offerings are not delimited by academic language or even syllables. But on the other hand, they are met with a space that is invitational. Most of the floor is open to the viewer's movement. And amongst themselves, the works consider domesticity as a realm both intricate and repetitious but in such, this repetition is achieved only through alternation, many times slight though sometimes grand.

All works are individuated. In each there is logic that extends backward instead of regresses. These works may be reclusive but nothing is hidden behind an anecdote. Domesticity is too often highlighted as something mediocre and safe and while this will be eradicated by time, this exhibition marks its privilege over the gravitas of a white, colder space. Setting is something we must carefully consider as to not override the work or demand undivided compliance from the viewer. The show contains illustrations and paintings which give dimension to the pragmatism behind the use of space. Sanna Helena Berger offers a keepsake. It rests outside of sculptural consideration and rather, toward mirror-transference of the artist's recent domestic manifesto. No works are didactic until after you think about them. We do this not as an alternative to the gallery, nor as dialectic undertaking in it's own light, but rather to correct the imbalance of open comfort and love with representation in a contemporary setting.

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Sanna Helena Berger is an artist.

Rebecca Friedman (b. 1994, Los Angeles, CA) is an artist, writer and curator based in New York. Her practice centers around the idea of uncreative compositions that are expressed through spatial arrangements, sonic patterns, energetic impulses, affective intensities and micro-gestures. She has shown work at The Print Shop at MoMA PS1, Queens, NY; Stream Gallery, Brooklyn, NY ; Otion Front Studio, Brooklyn, NY; 25 East 13th Gallery, NY; and Audio Foundation, Auckland, New Zealand. Past curatorial projects include Still Working? at The New School in 2014.

Dean Goldman (b. 1992, Sacramento, CA) is an artist. He received a B.F.A. in Painting from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2014. Along with freelance art work including painting, illustration, and set design, Dean employs his resources to publish his personal creative output as well as the work of his fellow comrades in the form of events, radio, and internet publications.

Alex Heilbron (b. 1987, California) is an artist from Vancouver, Canada who now lives in Düsseldorf, Germany. Her current work sets its stage at night where interpersonal gestures, memory, nostalgia, and the other side of pop culture melt together. Alex attended the San Francisco Art Institute where she received a BFA and is currently attending the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf.

Marc Matchak (b. 1993, San Jose, CA) is an artist currently living in San Francisco. Marc has shown work at the Time Based Arts Festival in Portland and recently in "UA1273-UA1728" at Silver Cloud Ranch. Curatorial projects include Poppy's and several hopeless efforts at Lewis & Clark College.

Magdalena Mitterhoffer (b. 1994, Innichen/San Candido, IT) lives and works in Berlin.

Jaakko Pallasvuo (b. 1987, Helsinki, FI) is an artist living in Helsinki and working internationally and online. Pallasvuo makes videos, ceramics, murals and texts and often collaborates with theater practitioners and dancers. His work often chooses a sci-fi and fantasy-based route into thinking about climate change, neomedieval politics and institutional critique. In recent years, Pallasvuo's work has been shown at 1646, Kunsthalle St Gallen, Seventeen Gallery, Transformation Marathon, CAC Vilnius, American Medium and Future Gallery among others.