

DZINE Gallery | rock + paper + scissors | October 21, 2016 – April 21, 2017

Elvira Dayel, Daniel Diaz-Tai, Diane Foug, Jeanne Hauser, Gina Jacupke, Yoko Kubricky & Christian Lange, Ellen Markoff, Lian Ng, Kari Orvik, Carrie Ann Plank, Silvia Poloto, Lucky Rapp, Thanya Suwansawad, Candace Thatcher, Jessie Thatcher, Carolyn Quartermaine and Victoria Welling.

Opening Reception:

DZINE Gallery

Friday, October 21, 6–9pm

128 Utah Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

DZINE Gallery is pleased to present the group exhibition, **rock + paper + scissors**. The show explores the materiality and function of rock, paper and scissors as mediums, tools and subject. The exhibition showcases ambrotypes, lunagrams, works on paper, paintings, resin-based works, marble sculpture, hand-loomed textile art, fashion art couture and video.

“The idea for this exhibition came from the artists themselves,” shares DZINE Gallery curator Philip Bewley. “In conversations with artists I will ask about their new work and work that they have always wanted to create. These informal conversations revealed a connecting theme of projects that incorporate rocks as a lineage to the past and present, and rocks as a medium for technique; works on paper in unexpected ways; and works of art that either depict scissors or utilize scissors as a tool in the creation process.”

For this exhibition, fine art photographer Kari Orvik creates a series of ambrotypes inspired by the glacial rocks she collected from her family’s home in Norway, as well as from other locations around California. This careful process of selecting rocks has long been a way for her to connect with a sense of place and belonging, which she depicts through their arrangement in photographs. An ambrotype is a positive photograph on glass made with the historical wet plate collodion process; each is a unique original. Orvik reinvigorates this historical photographic process through an experimental, contemporary and profoundly personal approach that focuses on memory and change over time.

Lian Ng presents his new *Folding Stone Series, 1 & 2*, created during his printmaking residency at Druckwerk, Basel, Switzerland in July 2016. At once poetic and highly rational, these monotypes with relief print and wood-type letterpress are produced on Okawara Japanese paper. Ng says, “This paper is very thin and that quality lends it to being folded and printed. The work is created from an extensive multistep printmaking process. It is an organic shape created by geometry.”

Silvia Poloto’s large works of paper collage are a continuation of her *Wabi-Sabi* series. With surety-of-hand, Poloto creates refined and thoughtful compositions stripped to their essentials. The work is understated yet possesses a distinct presence and a quiet authority. Poloto shares, “For this series I use paper as a primary medium – gluing and pulling the paper back leaves marks that become the brushstrokes and the underlying structure of the painting. The nicks, chips, bruises, scars and dents have an undiminished poise and strength of character. They are imperfect and unpredictable and yet inevitable. They don’t shout, they whisper.”

Lucky Rapp presents a triptych of three resin covered wood panels depicting open scissors in bas-relief. The mixed media pieces are composed of gesso, paint, acrylic, mixol and vinyl. Rapp shares the inspiration behind her new series: “My work is usually text driven. I enjoyed this opportunity to explore the technique and subject of actual objects. I am attracted to vintage things and I love the look of hairdresser scissors with the hook attached. When open they are playful and active. Hairdressing is an art form and I like merging that art with a different one.”

“It’s all about the paper,” says Jeanne Hauser of her series of lunagrams featured in the exhibition. After receiving a gift of vintage Agfa Portriga Rapid paper, Hauser knew she wanted to create something special with it. Hauser says of this medium, “This is among the most beautiful photographic paper ever made. It is no longer produced and photographers covet it.” Hauser brought the paper to her cabin in the Sierra foothills and created a series of lunagrams, placing natural plants from her property, such as horsetail, grasses and seed-heads, on the paper and exposing the composition to the light of a full moon.

Gina Jacupke's painting on canvas of Earth's moon explores her interest in scientific studies. Jacupke shares, "These moons are rocks suspended in space. They are beautiful and mysterious. They are the subjects of legends and myths. There is so much still unknown and yet to be discovered and that is intriguing to me."

Victoria Welling presents a paper wall sculpture titled *Murmuration*. Composed of roofing paper that builders use before laying down a shake roof and sewn together by thread, this work is a continuation of Welling's interest in what she describes as gender-assigned materials. "I like both the toolbox and the sewing kit," says Welling, "And I like exploring the artistic possibilities of utility materials." This new work is inspired by the group movement of birds, specifically the patterns starlings compose in flight, and also explores her continued interest in clusters, now conceived in a new medium. "After working in mixed media for some time, I wanted to work with paper again. This material reveals itself and is a participant in the creation process. It exaggerates, surprises and challenges what the viewer's – and the artist's – expectations of paper can be."

Collaboration is an integral part of this exhibition. Contemporary sculptors Yoko Kubricky and Christian Lange create a work of wall-hung relief-carved marble sculpture depicting a piece of paper with a cut in it, resembling paper cut with scissors. In their use of materials and subject, Kubricky and Lange fashion a work of art that is finely tuned to the ideas inherent in the exhibition.

Visual artists and sisters, Candace and Jessie Thatcher exemplify the collaborative process with their art couture and clothing line named *THATCHER*. *THATCHER*'s focus is on photographic, hyper-real, abstract, image-based clothing. The emphasis is on materiality and functionality. Candace and Jessie share, "Instead of functioning like a traditional photograph, which lies flat on a wall in a frame, the frame is the human form in perpetual movement – contorting, striding and sitting. When placed on fabric it is tangible, in-motion and reactionary to its environment. The photograph is now whirling, spinning, obscuring, folding, stretching, wrapping; drawing out of shape which creates a dialogue between the human form and its surroundings." Jessie Thatcher will also present new work created for this exhibition, continuing her exploration of her original multiple aperture photography in new combinations and mediums.

"Many of the works of art are created especially for this exhibition," shares Bewley. "We did not know what the art would completely look like until the installation. This involves a high level of chance, ambiguity and trust. The very creation of this exhibition is a collaboration between the artist and the gallery, allowing the artist to freely create and display new work."

Other artists in the exhibition include Daniel Diaz-Tai (work on paper), Elvira Dayel (process drawing paper cut abstractions), Diane Foug (painting, mixed-media on wood panels), Ellen Markoff (monotypes), Carrie Ann Plank (intaglio, relief and monotype), Carolyn Quartermaine (video), and Thanya Suwansawad (hand-loomed textile art incorporating recycled materials).

During the opening night reception, the winners of the DZINE + Moooi Carpets Design Contest will be unveiled. Local designers submitted proposals for an original area rug/carpet and the winners were chosen by a select group of Bay Area design directors, writers and luminaries. Three designers will receive their own rug created with Moooi Carpets' high-definition full color carpet technology and one lucky winner's design will become part of the permanent Moooi Carpets collection.

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