

_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
A CURATED GROUP SHOW



JULY 21 - AUGUST 18, 2012

CJG CHARLIE JAMES GALLERY
CHINATOWN, LOS ANGELES

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A ROMANTIC MEASURE

Sediments of the poetic, symbolic, repressed, and mechanical coalesce into works of art that interpolate abstract ideas of beauty and obsession into a kind of aesthetic emotion. In this instance, romance can be described as the pleasurable feeling of excitement and mystery associated with love. It connotes the expression of one's love, or deep emotional desires to connect with another person, place, or object. Poetic complexities within the photographic, sculptural, painterly, and performative modes suggest realms of fetishistic desire, love, and ideas of romance.

The works in this show attempt to transcend boundaries of human codes and visual language. Similarly, the surfaces we create as artists present ideas while the layers beneath hold meaning and depth in a perpetual state of lost and found among immeasurable indices. This complicated journey towards understanding traces an intimate walk through our perceived environment. The most intimate of spaces narrate concepts of desire, revealing the many parameters of romance as we continue to behold.

The Romantic measure of Belgian photographer Sebastien Bonin's monochrome photograph shows us a perfectly balanced sample of an artificial construction. Bonin toys with common notion that photography is inherently depictive by presenting a gray monochrome image. While one might consider it merely blank, the photograph is actually a black & white picture of the sky, finished with a blue acrylic transparency over it. Bonin's "Blue Sky-1" contains echoes of the sublime, of nature and abstraction switching places in a kind of amorous jest. Erich Bollmann's vibrant sculptures and installations create a fictional world that is filled with handcrafted personal and commonplace objects that he uses as surrogates. His stage props narrate intimate stories about relationships and potentially between alternate scenarios. Lisa Ohlweiler's photographic practice is invested in creating a refined context for viewers to forge unique connections within her images. Naturally this work demands decisive, controlled relationships to her subjects. The efforts she takes to specify her images effectively highlight the presence or absence of an embodied subject, in this way constructing clear visual bonds and a heightened sense of pathos between the photographs she chooses to present.

Marcus Perez's investment with the medium of painting allows for a painterly process of working from the bottom up. Perez employs a minimal layering process in which abstract forms are rendered on raw linen. His compositions are preoccupied with their own materiality and progress, yielding a discourse full of self-reflexive romance and notions of existentialism. Photographer Peter Holzhauer photographs his local landscape, nomadically exploring new territories and depicting a nostalgia for the places he chooses to frame and capture with his lens. His large format photographs are epic in details, beauty, and mystery. The paintings by Nick Aguayo are intricate and playful in the use of simple forms, basic colors, and the layering of paint. His compositions act as collages that map equations from his mind which are created freely on the surface of his canvases. Augusta Wood's photographic work uses first-hand memories and materials from her life to illustrate her family history and photo archive. Her work draws from actual spaces of personal experience. The resulting images deflect the various strange realities of one's most intimate environments within photographic, personal, and architectural space.

EJ Hill's projected video chronicles a dialogue that circulates around his obsessions with social networks and sexual desire, isolating and exposing connections and fetishizing the desirable, the infamous and the famous. Mark Verabioff finished assembling his page tears for "The Scavullo Doctrine" on April 10, 2006, the same day The New York Times published Holland Cotter's obituary on Allan Kaprow. The artist's first reading of Kaprow's death constituted a private action re-writing Cotter's obit onto the page tears, creating a mysterious conceptual "Happening" with Verabioff's romantic mourn that is pure Kaprow "Participatory Spectacle." When a page tear is purchased (12 page tears have been privately accessioned prior this exhibition) the artwork conceptually decomposes. Ian James' photograms register a series of marks and shapes wrought out of aggression and violence. The resulting exaggerated gestures and striking fields of color offer fragmented views of objects that were either thrown or wrestled with in the process of making his sculptural photographs.

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A Los Angeles native, Lesley Moon's work ruminates on ideas of love, poetry and the industries of luxury and fantasy that she grew up among. Her interest in the collisions and contingencies that occur as these ideas intermingle creates its own intransigent delight in earnestly romantic excesses. Calvin Lee's digitally rephotographed magazine collages construct true moments out of narrative possibilities. His geographical research on Rodeo Drive and greater L.A. for the past few years has been inspired by the allure of the landscape in which he chooses to explore in wanderlust and in places that are often not easily accessible. His infatuation in the connection of images and visual material exercises longing desires within the conventions of advertising culture, discourses surrounding the medium of photography. Bobbi Woods uses modified found movie posters and video to both obscure and reveal embedded imagery and text - dressing up a cinematic context with potential for many more exotic and intrepid meanings, all of the stuff that makes for great melodrama.

Aaron Wrinkle's musical requiems transmute pure energy into performance. His solo guitar enactments transpose the naivete of soulful experimentation with the qualities of mastery and merit, and the yearning of angst-filled expression. Brandon Andrew performs a scene from "Say Anything" starring John Cusack. His intimate love affair encapsulates the stage in an emotional Motion Picture performance debut with Whitney Houston "Didn't We Almost Have It All", setting the soundtrack and animating the artwork in this show as the backdrop to a heartbreaking obsession to a dying love relationship.

A true romance marries an alchemy connecting the heart, soul, and mind. Can romance be measured in words, or is love but a second hand emotion? What's love got to do with it?

Text Attribution: Calvin Lee, July 2012

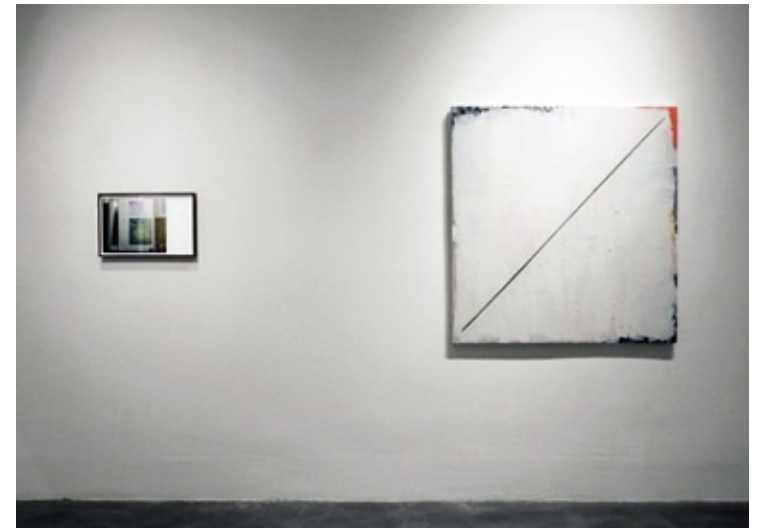
Works By:

Nick Aguayo
Erich Bollmann
Sebastien Bonin
Ej Hill
Peter Holzhauer
Ian James
Calvin Lee
Lesley Moon
Lisa Ohlweiler
Marcus Perez
Mark Verabioff
Augusta Wood
Bobbi Woods

Performances by Brandon Andrew / Aaron Wrinkle

Exhibition organized by Calvin Lee

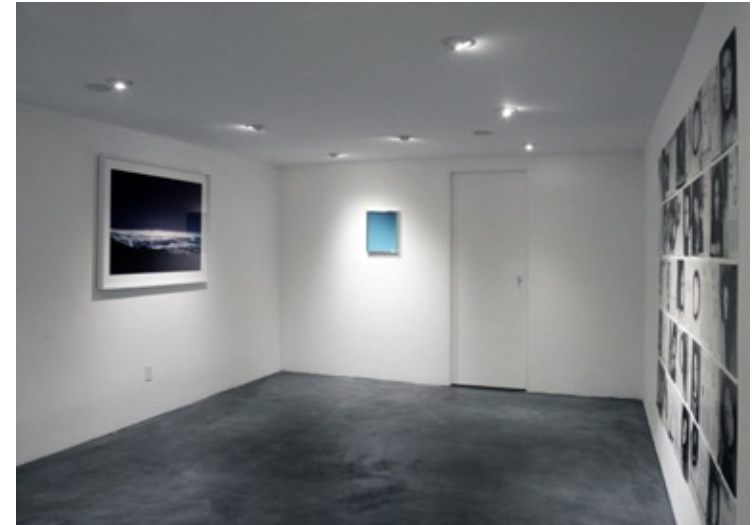
_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
NICK AGUAYO



Untitled, 2011
48 x 48 inches
Graphite and Acrylic on Canvas

Nick Aguayo received his B.A. from UCLA in 2007 and his M.F.A. from the University of California, Irvine in 2012. His work has been included in exhibitions at Autonomie, The Armory Center for the Arts, and INMO gallery. Aguayo's work was recently featured in *New American Paintings # 97*. He currently lives and works in Irvine, Ca.

_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
SEBASTIEN BONIN



Blue Sky-1, 2011
16 x 13"

Print Black and White paper, acrylic transparency sheet (digital b&w print on mat paper)

Sébastien Bonin was Born in 1977 in Brussels and received a BFA in Silkscreen and Digital print at ENSAV La Cambre. Bonin's images emanate from his direct experience of his first work in fashion photography. Sebastien Bonin's "photographic objects" are an exploration of the sculptural dimension of photography.

_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
EJ HILL

Stephen Eichhorn

Thorne Brandt

Andrew Breen

R. Scott Whipkey

Tyler Calkin

Rick Yribe

Justin Thomas Schaefer

Ej Hill incorporates his own body (or surrogate bodies) into much of his work. He examines its physical properties, limitations, and its role in cultural signification. Recent performances and exhibitions include Help is on the Way (for Mark Aguilar, Trayvon Martin, and the rest of Us) at Monte Vista Projects (Los Angeles), Slow Dance at ACRE Projects (Chicago), and Overkill at The Mission (Chicago). EJ earned a BFA from Columbia College Chicago and is a current MFA candidate at UCLA.

Every Artist I've Ever Wanted to Have Sex With, 2012
Video
Edition 1/3

_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
PETER HOLZHAUER

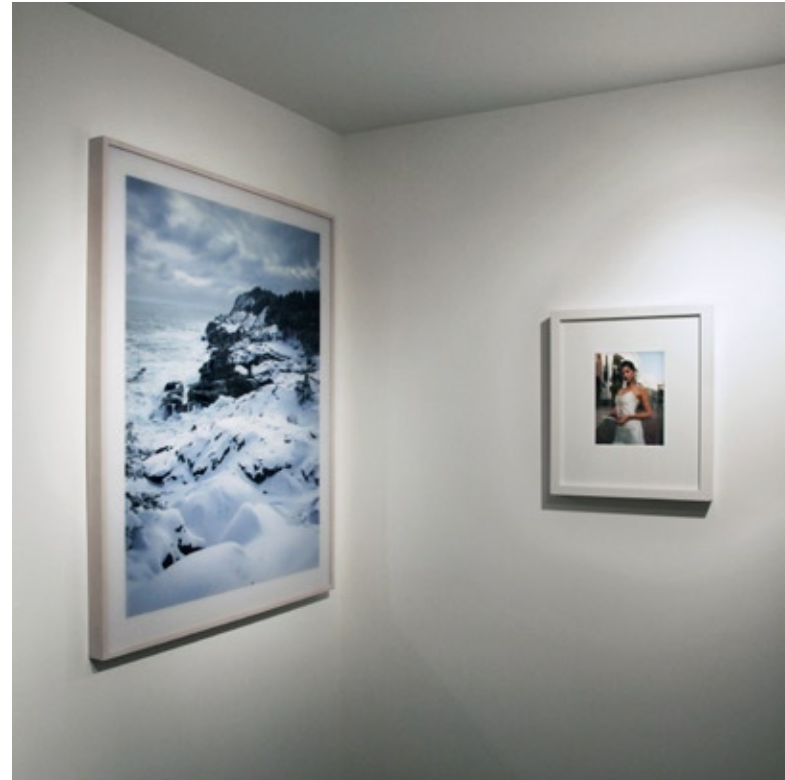


All of the Lights, 2012, 36 x 45.5", Archival Pigment Print, Edition: 6

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PETER HOLZHAUER



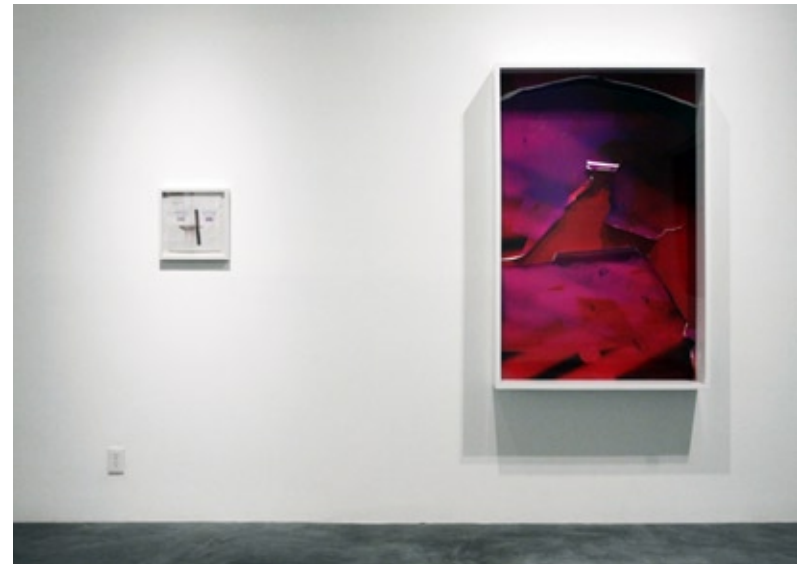
Blackhead, 2000
43.5" by 35"
C-Print
Edition: 6



Peter Holzhauer received BFA in 2004 from the Art Institute of Boston, where he studied with Frank Gohlke, and an MFA in 2007 from the UCLA, where he studied with James Welling and Catherine Opie. Recent group exhibitions include Margo Leavin Gallery, the Luckman Gallery at Cal State LA, and Night Gallery all in Los Angeles where he lives and maintains a studio. He is currently an adjunct faculty member at the USC Roski School of Fine Arts and a lecturer at the University of California, Riverside. His prints are held in the permanent collections of the George Eastman House in Rochester, New York; Coleccion Jumex in Mexico City, Newark Museum in New Jersey, and Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

A ROMANTIC MEASURE

IAN JAMES



Elements of Fractal Topography #8 (Chair
throws), 2008
59.5 x 39.5 x 6"
Type C Prints

Ian James was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. He lives and works in Los Angeles, California. He received his MFA from California Institute of the Arts and a BA from The Ohio State University. He has participated in recent exhibitions and performances in Los Angeles, San Diego, and Marfa, Texas. He is an adjunct faculty member of the Fine Arts Department at Otis College of Art and Design, as well the Graduate Fine Art Department at Art Center.

_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
CALVIN LEE



Her Time Between Floral Bougainvillea and a Moment of Vanilla Sky, Los Angeles, 2012
24 x 30 in / 2 ¼ x 20 ¼ in
Lambda Print
Edition 1 of 3



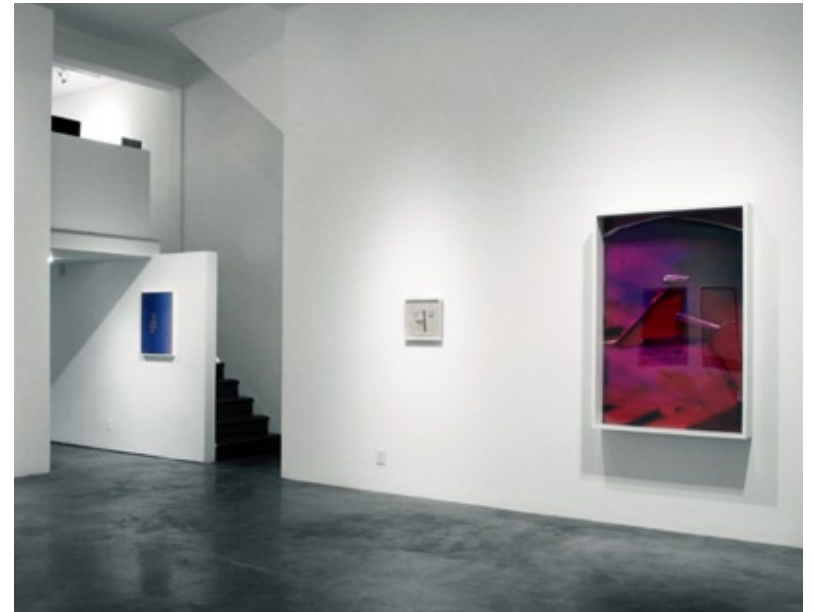
Divine Allure, 2011
5 x 8"
Lambda Print
Edition: 1/2

Calvin Lee is a conceptual-based artist from Boston, MA. He received an MFA in the photograph & media program from California Institute of the Arts in 2009; and a BFA in Visual & Critical Studies from School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA in 2007. His work has been exhibited at Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles; POST, Los Angeles; Cottage Home, Los Angeles; Arts & Sciences PROJECTS; New York, NY; Stephen Cohen Gallery, Los Angeles; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA. He currently lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
LESLEY MOON



Balenciaga Feelings, 2010
10 3/8 x 10 7/16 in
mixed media collage



Lesley Moon is an artist and writer, born in Santa Monica, CA. Before studying Art and Comparative Literature at UCLA, she worked as a commercial photographer taking pictures and cataloguing Hollywood ephemera and rarities for an associate of Sotheby's. In 2006 she co-founded Deixis, an occasional journal for intersections of art and text. In 2010, her public project, a large-scale photographic mural entitled The Golden Veil, was installed at the 7th and Fig Ernst & Young Marketplace in Downtown Los Angeles. Her latest solo project, Framed For Life, opened at See Line Gallery in April 2012. Her writing was included in the Made In LA Catalogue, collaboratively organized by the Hammer Museum and LAXART and published this May by Prestel. She has exhibited at the Frederick Gallery, Five Thirty Three, Workspace, LAXART, Cirrus Gallery and See Line Gallery in West Hollywood, CA.

_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
LISA OHLWEILER



Untitled (Female), 2009
29 x 22.5"
C-Print
Edition: 1/5



Untitled (Male), 2008
29 x 22.5"
C-Print
Edition: 1/5



Mugs, 2008
Chromogenic Print
28 x 22.5"
C-Print
Edition: 1/5

Lisa Ohlweiler (b.1981; La Jolla, CA) grew up in the Midwest. She has exhibited at Margo Leavin Gallery, LA; Redling Fine Art, LA; Cardwell Jimmerson Contemporary Art, LA. Her works have been published in Auto Focus: The Self-Portrait in contemporary Art by Susan Bright and by Camera Austria for Dec. 2011. Lisa lives and works in Los Angeles.

_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
MARCUS PEREZ



In the All-Together, 2012, 48 x 48", Acrylic and Linen over Panel

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MARCUS PEREZ



Yes, but Almost, 2011
21" x 22"
Acrylic and Linen over Panel



Through a Tinted Surface, 2011
17" x 21"
Acrylic and Linen over Panel

Marcus Perez received his M.F.A. from University of California, Irvine and his B.A. from University of California, Los Angeles. Perez has recently shown in Speculative Materialism at D-Block Projects in Long Beach, Nothing Comes from Nothing at La Cienega Projects in Culver City, and You Do This to Me I Do This to You at Autonomie in Downtown Los Angeles. He currently lives and works in Los Angeles.

_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
MARK VERABIOFF



Mark Verabioff, Canadian born Los Angeles-based artist Mark Verabioff is known for distinctive conversations using word as image. Mark Verabioff was born in Kingston, Ontario, Canada in 1963. The artist studied Intermedia, Video & Performance Art at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (1981-1985) and The Banff Centre for the Arts (1984.) The artist's work has been featured in Artforum, C Magazine, Flash Art, Frieze, Parachute, and The New York Times.

The Scavullo Doctrine, 2006
Dimensions variable
Page tears, artist tape, vinyl, silver zip memory system
Edition: Unique

_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
AUGUSTA WOOD



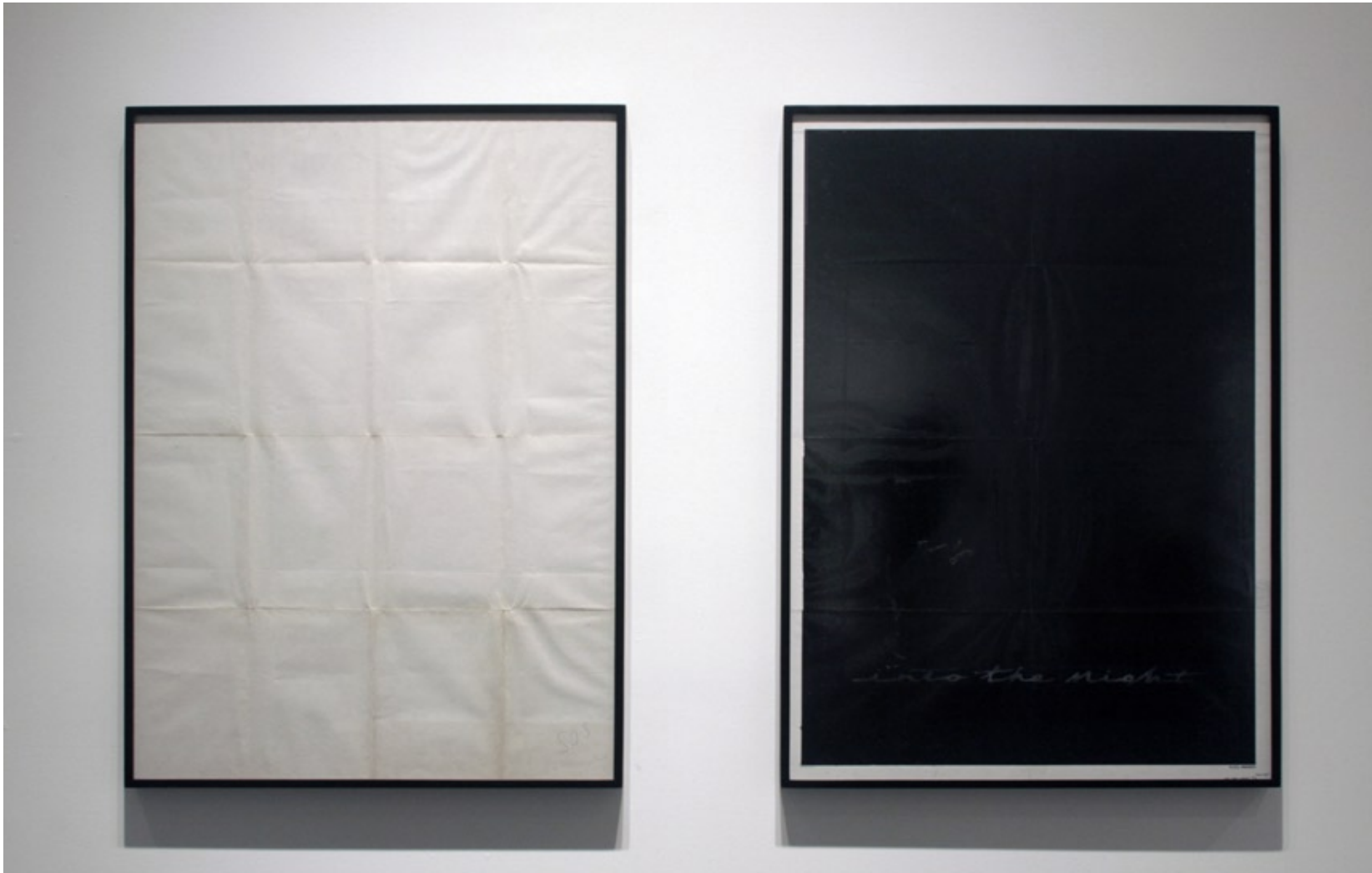
December 27, 2011, 2012
Chromogenic Print
11.25 x 14 inches on 12.75 x 20.75 inches
Edition of 7, 2 APs



Helen's Room (2002, 2005, 2008), 2009
Chromogenic Print
23.75 x 30.5 inches
Edition: 1/5

Augusta Wood is a Los Angeles-based artist. Originally from the greater Boston area, she earned her BFA from The Cooper Union in 2000 and her MFA from CalArts in 2005. Her work has since been the subject of solo exhibitions at Cherry and Martin (Los Angeles) and Angles Gallery (Los Angeles), and has been featured in exhibitions at Anton Kern Gallery (New York), Torrance Art Museum (Torrance, CA), China Art Objects Galleries (Los Angeles), among others. She was included in the Fotofest 2010 Biennial, Assembly (Houston, TX), curated by the Wallis Annenberg Photography Department at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Her work has been written about in Modern Painters, The Huffington Post, Art Lies Contemporary Art Quarterly, the Los Angeles Times, and has appeared on the cover of Black Clock. She is represented by Angles Gallery in Los Angeles.

_____A ROMANTIC MEASURE
BOBBI WOODS



SOS, 2012
41 x 27 in
Enamel on poster
Edition: Unique

Into the Night, 2012
Enamel on Poster
41 x 27 in
Edition: Unique

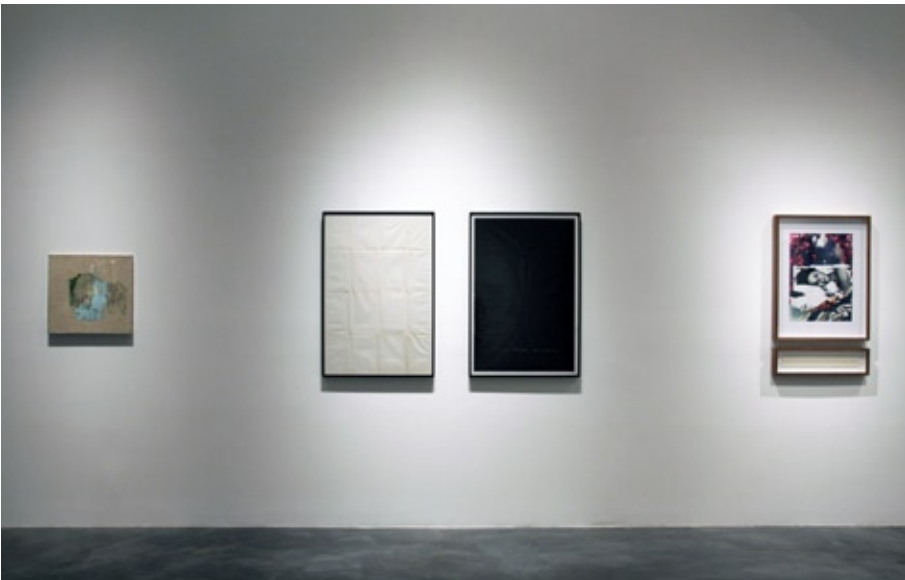
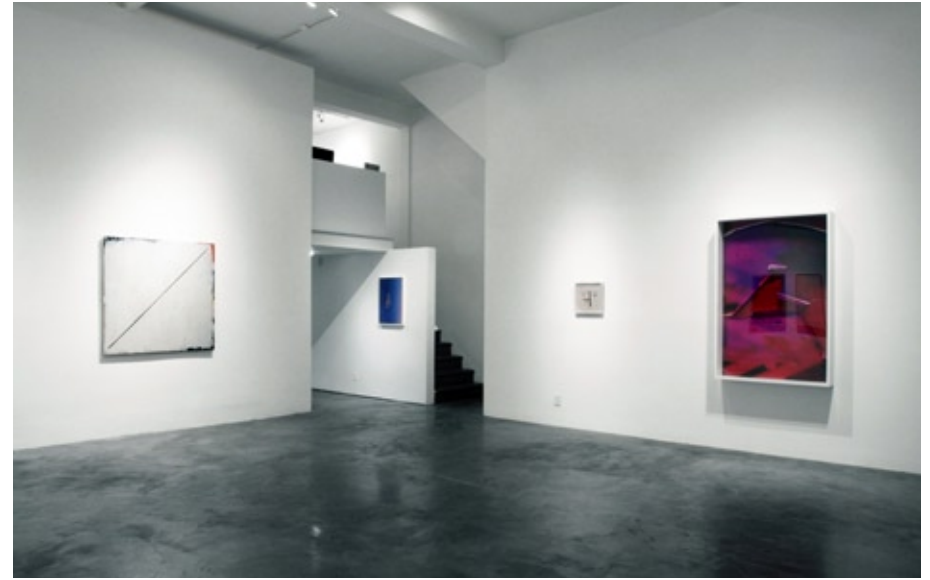
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BOBBI WOODS



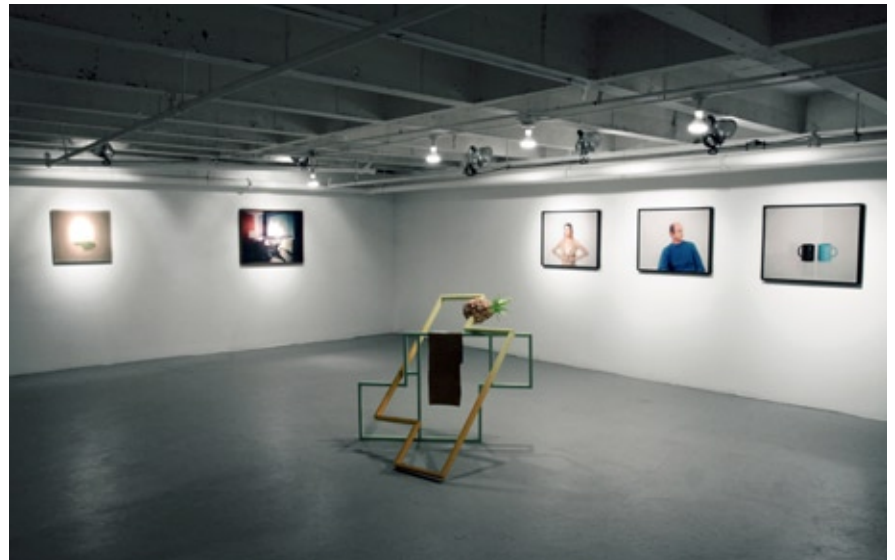
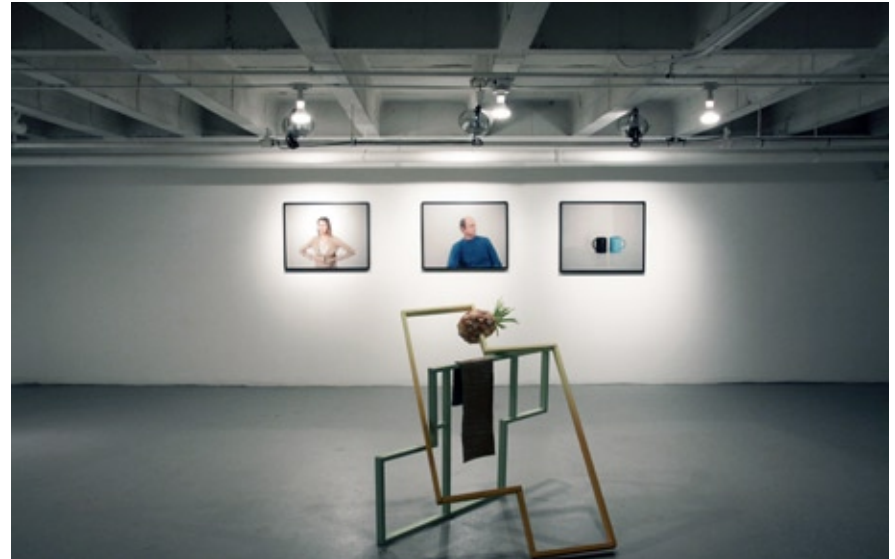
In the Mood, 2011
27.25 x 20.25"
Folded poster, Frame

Bobbi Woods lives and lives and works in Los Angeles. Solo Exhibitions include: Fourteen30 Contemporary, Portland; LA><ART at the Mondrian Los Angeles; Annie Wharton Los Angeles; Workspace, Los Angeles; Fourteen30 Contemporary, Portland; 2nd Cannons, Los Angeles. Selected group shows include: Spare Me, Night Gallery, Los Angeles (2012); Greater LA, Curated by Eleanor Cayre, Benjamin Godsill, and Joel Mesler, New York (2011); Once Emerging, Now Emerging: Livin' L.A., Cirrus Gallery (2011), Los Angeles; Mind Games, International Art Objects, Los Angeles (2011); California Dreaming, curated by Hedi Slimane, Almine Rech, Paris, (2011); This is the Beginning, Actual Size, Los Angeles (2010); Adam Mar- nie, Bobbi Woods, Brendan Fowler, Asia Song Society, New York, (2009); Gaping Hole Found in Universe, Daniel Hug, Los Angeles (2008).

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INSTALLATION



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