UPFOR

Media contact:
Heather Lee Birdsong
heather@upforgallery.com
503-227-5111

DANIELLE RONEY: *FREQUENCIES OF OPACITY*

Migrant voices are expressed in physically intimate artworks that seek
to resist colonization and anti-immigration rhetoric.

February 20, 2020
Portland, Ore.

Daniel Roney: *Frequencies of Opacity*
March 5 – April 18, 2020
First Thursday public opening March 5, 6:00 to 8:00pm
Gallery hours Tuesday – Saturday, 11:00am to 6:00pm and by appointment

> *One must understand that it is impossible to reduce anyone, no matter who, to a truth he would not have generated on his own. That is, within the opacity of his time and place.*
>
> – Edouard Glissant

Migration patterns, immigration policy, and migrant and refugee experiences have been at the center of Danielle Roney's work for almost two decades. For her debut exhibition at UPFOR, Roney presents three bodies of work rooted in research and community engagement around contemporary migrant experiences:

Publics: a live-streaming camera network accessible only to migrant communities that turns the table on surveillance culture and on the norms of art viewership.

STRATA: Zero and Zero-One: new works in an ongoing series that translates biofeedback and voice data recorded by migrant collaborators into light-based sculpture.

Whispers: 3D printed sculptures formed by vocal recordings and readings by and about migrants to embody the physical intimacy of a whisper.

The exhibition reprises and builds on Roney's recent participation in *knowledges 2019*, curated by Joey Orr, Andrew W. Mellon Curator for Research. It was part of the Integrated Arts Research Initiative at the Spencer Museum of Art at the University of Kansas, funded by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.
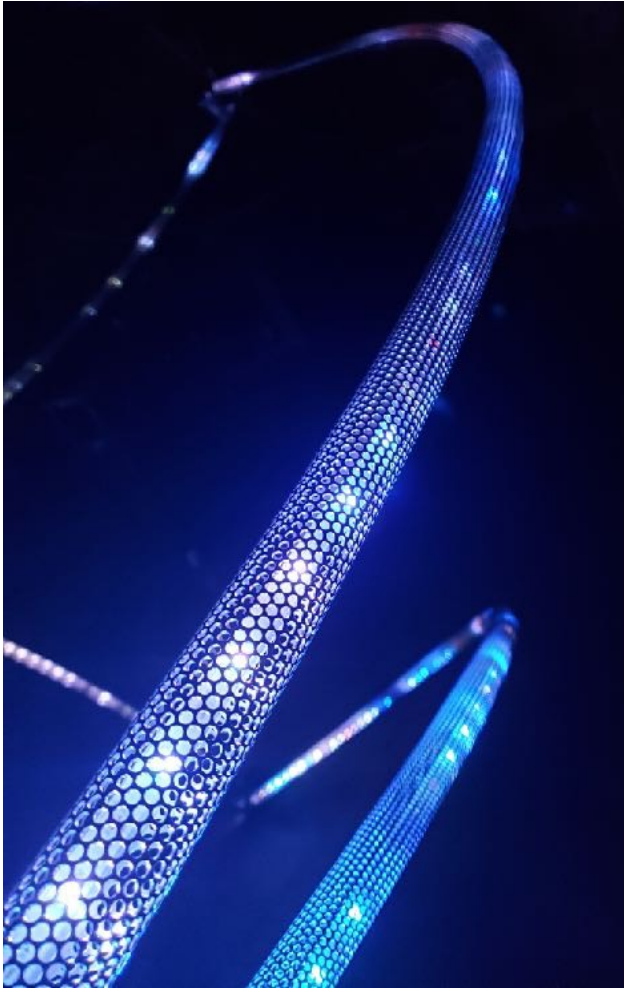
Roney's practice is rooted in nomadic research and the impact of technology on society, expressed as site-specific installations and sculpture. Roney often uses algorithms to design sculptures and animate light-based works, based in large-scale data about migration patterns as well as in individual migrant stories. Her latest works present poetic visualizations expressing resilient affirmations of strength in difference.

Danielle Roney studied sculpture and digital media at the University of Georgia and currently lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Her best-known project, *Global Portals*, has been presented in numerous transnational, networked public spaces through the world. She exhibited in the Beijing off-biennale 'Convergence' (c. Feng Boyi and CS Kiang) and has produced installations, commissions and works for exhibitions in Johannesburg, Venice (IT), Sao Paulo, Istanbul and numerous US museums and permanent public collections. Roney is recipient of several grants, awards and recognition, including the National Endowment of the Arts, the Loridans Foundation and the 2010 Venice Biennale of Architecture.

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About Upfor: Founded in 2013, Upfor presents early career and established artists whose work examines and challenges cultural and artistic orthodoxies. The gallery is located at 929 NW Flanders Street, Portland, Oregon 97209. Gallery hours are Tuesday–Saturday from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm and by appointment. For more information about our programming, please visit upforgallery.com.

Danielle Roney, *Whispers: Mantras 01*, 2019, 3D printed nylon, 5 x 7 x 8 inches (black acrylic base 16 x 16 inches); vocal data: Zohreh, 'a directly revolutionary effect', voiceover from artist adaptation (2011) of *Refugee Conversations* by Bertolt Brecht (1940).

Danielle Roney, *STRATA: Zero* and *Zero-One*, 2020; LED, perforated stainless steel tube, speed rail, biometric data, animation, controller; approx. 8 x 7 x 7 feet (each).

Danielle Roney, *PUBLICS,* 2019; 5-camera Nest security camera system, cloud-based software, private access peer-to-peer viewing network, 5 c-stands; variable dimensions.

All images courtesy the artist and Upfor. High resolution image available on request. For requests, contact heather@upforgallery.com.