NOON Projects

Joseph Magliaro The Ludwig Series (Parergon to a Domestic Symphony)

October 14 – November 12 2022



Every thing is always something else. As confusing as this initially seems, it quickly becomes clear. Take, for example, a grid, the classic modernist tabula rasa. Plot one point, then another. Now, something begins to happen. No matter how remotely placed or how far apart in space, a sense of possibility arises between them, joining them together into something new: a line. It's a particularly strange quality since there's nothing inherent to either point that connects it to the other. Instead, the potential to be something else — to become no longer a singular point but a part of a line — emerges from the shift in context and bubbles up between the two. Scale up and this potential remains, from point to line to plane to prism.

It is also present as a motivating principle in Joseph Magliaro's work. Each piece is formally simple, but existentially slippery. Though it's easy to describe what the various pieces in the Ludwig series are made of (primarily planks of MDF, laminated in shades of cobalt, green, and pink), determining what they are is a different matter entirely. Each piece simultaneously suggests multiple uses and identities, without settling on a single one. As *Ludwig Low Table/Bookstand*, 3 *Leg* (2021) titularly alludes to, different possibilities are evoked depending on orientation and context. When standing on three legs, the work resembles a table. Flipped upside down, however, it becomes a bookstand, with those same three legs acting as dividers.

Put differently, Magliaro's works are easy to perceive but impossible to interpret. Like a drawing that resembles both a rabbit and a duck, made famous by philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein in his *Philosophical Investigations*, multiple possibilities are present, but none is definitive. Each piece is discrete as an object but entirely undetermined. *Ludwig Parergon* (*Side Table/Lamp*) (2021), for example, could be a side table, a lamp, a seat, a sculpture. In this way it even oscillates between a seemingly harder edged distinction, that of art vs. design. Though these pieces may be functional, the multiple uses they suggest serve to highlight their formal qualities, offering up the possibility of an aesthetic experience outside of utility. Oscillating between fixed identities and bringing into focus the bounds of context, they remain always open ended.

-Alec Recinos

NOON

NOON Projects is a gallery in Chinatown, Los Angeles. Our program showcases artists who work from the heart, with a focus on queerness, the divine, the natural world, craft, and social practices. We host an ongoing program of dinners, concerts, meditation groups, and community happenings.

We aim to create a welcoming space for artists and the community to connect and flourish. Please come by and see us – you are very welcome here.

Joseph Magliaro – The Ludwig Series

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Ludwig Side Chair (A Very Pleasant Chair) 2021

Laminated MDF, Shown in Hunter/Cobalt/Blush 16 × 31 × 18 In Open Edition





Ludwig Armstool (Kaninchen und Ente) 2021

Laminated MDF, Shown in Hunter/Cobalt/Blush 22 × 26 × 12 In Open Edition





Ludwig Bench 2021

Laminated MDF, Shown in Hunter/Cobalt/Blush 34 × 17 × 12 In Open Edition





Ludwig Low Table/ Bookstand, 3 Leg 2021

Laminated MDF, Shown in Hunter/Cobalt/Blush 26 × 12 × 10 In Open Edition





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Ludwig Stool 2021

Laminated MDF, Shown in Hunter/Cobalt/Blush $16 \times 17 \times 12$ In $40.6 \times 43.2 \times 30.5$ cm





Ludwig Low Table / Bookstand / Side Table, 2 Leg 2021

Laminated MDF, Shown in Hunter/Cobalt/Blush 16 × 12 × 10 In Open Edition





Ludwig Parergon (Side Table/Lamp) 2021

Laminated MDF, with Carrera Marble Base. Shown in Hunter/Cobalt/Blush 12 × 31 1/2 × 22 In Edition of 1







