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ELZA SILE

Kitten at Rämistrasse (Snake's bedroom)

PEDRO WIRZ

Entropy Crib

April 13 – May 27, 2023

Pedro Wirz's pieces appeals to organic forms from nature embedding them not only to the basement of the gallery's architecture, but to the earth on top of which its forms are erected and stem from.

The wall objects, covered in layers of soft material, carefully envelop these fragile time capsules, while telling the story of human intervention responsible for the present critical state of life. Their morphology is charged with the powerful symbolism of the egg form as representation of change, fertility, and transformation. The handprints, that like flower petals surround these objects, not only reiterate the tactile energy always present in Wirz's works, but also mirror the hands of his creator, while simultaneously questioning his interference.

Wrapped in soft material, the monolith shaped cases with soft edges are wrapped with scraps of textile and acrylic paint, which compose landscape images through collage and mixture. Pedro's wall objects reveal protruding glass elements that break their two-dimensionality through anatomical forms — biological sensory organs that reinforce the tactile and sensorial nature of his works. The eye-shaped globes that peek through their surface both project and receive visual stimuli. These inorganic forms with human-like traces bring agency to the objects, transforming Wirz's sculptures into living artifacts. His work uses materials to explore the processes and dynamics of living organisms through their agency, understanding growth and waste as part of the dynamism, experienced both through objects and organisms.

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Pedro Wirz was born 1981, in Pindamonhangaba, Brazil and lives in Zurich. This is the third solo exhibition at the gallery. Forthcoming solo exhibitions include at MASI, Lugano and Galerie Nagel Draxler, Cologne. Recent solo shows include at Kai Matsumiya (New York, 2022); Kunsthalle Basel (2022); Marc Selwyn (Los Angeles, 2020); Galerie Nagel Draxler (Berlin, 2019); Kunsthaus Langenthal (2019); Centre Culturel Suisse (Paris, 2019) and PHILIPPZOLLINGER (Zurich, 2019). In addition, Wirz has been included in numerous group exhibitions, such as at Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève (current); Aargauer Kunsthaus (2019); Blank Projects (Cape Town, 2018); Tinguely Museum (Basel, 2016); Dortmunder Kunstverein (2013) and Palais de Tokyo (Paris, 2013). In 2023, Wirz was the recipient of the first edition of the NanoARTS Prize, granted by The Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia and the Adolphe Merkle Institute and in 2022, he received a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant.