

Nika Kaiser
Soft Slough

September 16th - November 4th, 2023
West Gallery



Nika Kaiser, Still from *Soft Slough (1)*, 2023, Single-Channel Hi-8 video, Duration: 4:43

Wetlands embody potential in their perpetually undefined qualities. The alligator has survived 65 million years within these intermingled depths. Fugitive slaves fled from plantations in the American south and the Caribbean, founding egalitarian maroons in swamps and forests. Although dwindling, this commingling of land and water generates a shrouded space for the most complex biodiversity of all planetary ecosystems.

Soft Slough is an offering of possibility, where we might become subsumed in murky depths of interconnectedness: envisioning ourselves outside of the realms of failing societal strictures, de-and-recomposing, becoming of a place where a myriad of different practices, relations, and worlds are suspended together.

*“For near-future reference: muck is one part water,
One part what-have-you,
Including yourself, now in it over your head,
As upright as ever.”*

-David Wagoner
From *Walking in a Swamp*

Works Exhibited

Soft Slough (1), 2023, Single Channel Hi-8 Video, TV Monitor, Duration: 4:43

Soft Slough (Serpent), 2023, Archival Pigment Print, Mirrored Glass, 25 x 31 inches

Soft Slough (Pool), 2023, Single Channel Video Projection, Mirrored Plexiglass, Duration: 8:43

About the Artist

Nika Kaiser is a visual artist intertwining sound, video, photography and installation. Her practice intersects ideas of interspecies connection, folklore, deep ecology, and is informed by her upbringing in the Sonoran desert. Kaiser holds an MFA in Visual Art from the University of Oregon. Her work has been exhibited internationally and she has been the recipient of numerous awards, including a Warhol Foundation Grant, a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Fellowship, and two Arts Foundation New Works Grants. She is part of Ungrund Collective, a collective of female video artists who curate screenings nationally. She creates site-specific sound and video experiments as one half of the collaborative duo Alluvium. Kaiser teaches experimental practices in the Department of Film and Television at the University of Arizona.

About Everybody

Everybody is a gallery in Tucson, AZ that primarily works with emerging and perpetually-emerging artists. Its beginnings in Tucson started as a warehouse project space from 2016-2018, followed by an iteration in Chicago, IL from 2019-2020. Everybody's activity has been featured in ARTnews, Arizona Public Media, Contemporary Art Daily, Vulture, and more. Everybody is a member of the New Art Dealers Alliance.