

Décembre se termine enfin. Je traîne mes pieds dans la slush sur le pont, le bout de mes oreilles rougit et brûle. Je rencontre mon image, difficile à reconnaître sur la limite troublée de la surface dépolie de l'étang. Je me sens émue de chercher une vue plus claire.

Kneeling at its shore, I address the pond directly:
how do you maintain grace under these precarious conditions to which you are so vulnerable, external forces that dictate how you feel and are felt?

Succumbing to a naive impulse,
(or, more honestly, an unresolved desire to be dominated)
I plant my senseless fingertips against the surface,
transferring their prints in an arrogant sacrifice.

L'étang me répond:
Parfois, je me sens comme moyen de conservation, et autrefois, de conversation.
Dans ma transparence réside mon offre de perspectives.
À condition de temps, ma surface gelée libère des occasions d'assemblages¹.
Ce sont simplement les stipulations de mon existence, même si je me sens souvent fatiguée.

Precisely then, a sobering gust of air struck, ushering me towards the trail. I head back to the building where I often grow fearful². Jusqu'à la prochaine fois, je serai préoccupé par les autres griefs et connaissances qu'il retient.

Danica Pinteric, January 2019

¹ Adapted from Mégane Voghell's studio notes, 2018

² *ibid.*

à condition features new work by Sophia Belkin (b. 1990, Moscow) and Mégane Voghell (b. 1991, Montréal) and is on view from January 10 - February 24, 2019 at Calaboose in Montréal, Canada. The exhibition's key focus is temperature; the primary circumstance responsible for regulating the material state of water between gas, liquid, and, solid. Belkin and Voghell's mutual interest in temperature and compositional change manifests in *pond* (2019), a collaborative installation in the center of the gallery which frames a mix of sculpture, textile, (Belkin) and waxed illustrations (Voghell) suspended in a sheet of ice. Voghell's *Naissance aveugle (pierre tombale)* (2019), a free-standing ice sculpture welcomes visitors outside the gallery's main entrance while Belkin's site specific installation of video and sculpture, *Marsh Annex* (2019) plays in our upstairs shed. As Montréal's harsh winter fluctuates over the duration of the show, the textures of the ice and the works themselves will be subject to change, unearthing the unsuspecting ways that water can exercise a kind of organic agency.

Sofia Belkin (1990, Moscow) currently lives and works in New Orleans, Louisiana. She earned her BFA in drawing and printmaking from MICA in 2012. She has participated in residency programs in Vermont, Norway, Russia, and most recently the Narva Art Residency in Estonia. Recent shows include Aurelia at RESORT Baltimore, Stone Belly Dweller, a solo presentation at Wildflower Baltimore, In Styx Silt at Gern en Regalia in New York, and Reflex Arc at the Front in New Orleans. She moonlights as a freelance medical and biological illustrator.

Mégane Voghell (b. 1991, Montréal) currently lives and works in Montréal, Québec. She earned a BFA in intermedia and cyberarts from Concordia University in 2016. Her work was recently exhibited in Waste Cube at Main Street, Toronto, and featured in NUT Publication. She is also a founding organizer of Épisode Laurier, an experimental art fair based in Montréal.