

The background of the entire page is an abstract painting. It features thick, expressive brushstrokes in two primary colors: a vibrant red and a dark, muted blue. The red strokes are vertical and somewhat irregular, while the blue strokes are more horizontal and layered, creating a sense of depth and texture. The overall effect is that of a dynamic, gestural artwork.

Devening Projects

SEAN NOONAN

A Net for Catching Days

November 5 - December 23, 2023

Devening Projects

3039 West Carroll, Chicago, IL 60612 USA

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We're pleased to present A Net for Catching Days, the first exhibitions in Chicago for New York artist Sean Noonan and Danish sculptor and metal worker Alberte Tranberg. The exhibition opens with a reception for the artists on Sunday, November 5th from 3 - 5pm and continues until Saturday, December 23rd.

Although the studio practices of Alberte Tranberg and Sean Noonan suggest dissimilar paths, there are clear affinities in the emotional and conceptual results of both. An insistent sensitivity to material tactility and a sensual feeling for line are evident in both artists' work. Their individual moves reveal a desire to communicate through the language of structure and gesture. Tranberg exploits the cool, smooth perfection of the polished steel; Noonan exposes the beautiful patina of his found panels with additions made with daring marks in oil stick and brush. These are artists who not only love the haptic possibilities of their materials, but thrive on how the subtle manipulation of those materials leads to an experience of visual wonder and mystery.

Sean Noonan synthesizes his interactions with the outside world- moments, forms, impressions and fleeting visuals- as gestures and marks that make their way into small-scale paintings. He paints with oil and enamel on found and often weathered wood, embracing the inherent history within the materials, and conversing with the existing evidence in the surface of past human interactions. Paint is applied to storied foundations, following the same channels that deliver the illusion of familiarity when recalling a landscape from a dream, or a memory; only able to provide focus to what lies on the periphery, bringing clarity to nothing the eyes fall directly on. Seeking to capture marks singularly his own, similar to the cultivation of a person's own handwriting developed through years of use, these motifs exist in a fluid state, with the artist anchoring them through methods and traditions of historical painting. Flaws are embraced and his process left out in the open within the painting and its construction, striving to harmonize as a whole upon completion.

Sean Noonan (b.1986, Brooklyn, NY) lives and works in Kingston, New York. He has exhibited nationally and internationally since graduating from Pratt University with a BFA in 2009. Recent exhibitions include: LKIF Gallery, Seoul, Korea; Resort, Baltimore, MD; Galleri Kai, Copenhagen, Denmark; Poker Flats, Williamstown, MA; Teffia Gallery, Kingston, NY; Ortega Y Gasset Projects, Brooklyn, NY; Sears-Peyton Gallery, New York, NY; Marc Straus Gallery, New York, NY. Noonan is the co-founder of Teffia Primary, Kingston, NY, an ongoing curatorial project.



Elemeno, 2023, enamel and oil on found wood, 12 x 9 inches



Postcards, 2023, oil on found wood, 6.25 x 10 inches



Red Ginkgo, 2023, oil on found wood, 11 x 7.25 inches



Cantilever, 2023, oil on found wood, 15 x 9 inches



Back to the Drawing Board, 2021, oil on found wood, 6.25 x 13 inches



Falmouth Harbour, 2022, enamel and oil on found wood, 6 x 11 inches



Talisman Form, 2023, oil on found wood, 25 x 16 inches



Assembly Line, 2023, oil on found wood, 12 x 5.5 inches



de L'Air, 2023, oil on found wood, 11 x 20.5 inches



Aura, 2023, oil on found wood, 20.5 x 4.5 inches



Hands In, 2023, oil on found wood, 6 x 8.5 inches



Simple Oddity 1, 2022, enamel on found wood, 12.5 x 5.5 inches



Night Flag, 2023, house paint and oil on found wood, 13.75 x 7 inches



Talisman for Chicago, 2023, oil on found wood, 20.25 x 3.5 inches



Meadow Lines, 2022, oil on found wood, white lacquered oak frame, 12 x 15.5 inches



Talisman 2, 2023, oil on panel, 4.5 x 9.5 inches



Pale Talisman, 2023, oil on found wood, 8 x 3.75 inches



Only the Necessary, 2023, oil on found wood, 11.25 x 4.75 inches



Simple Oddity 2, 2022, enamel on found wood, 9.5 x 6.5 inches



Old and New, 2021, oil on found wood, white lacquered oak artist frame, 9.25 x 12 inches



New Fragments, 2023, oil on found wood, 7 x 10.25 inches



Ornas, 2023, oil on found wood, 8.5 x 5.5 inches



Icon Painting, 2023, oil on found wood, 12 x 5.5 inches



Talisman Mars, 2023, oil on found wood, 14.5 x 6.75 inches



Early Gate, 2022, oil on found wood, 4.25 x 16 inches



Parts & Labor, 2023, oil on found wood, 12.75 x 8.5 inches



Talisman 1, 2023, enamel & oil on panel, 4.5 x 9.5 inches



Green Gold, 2022, oil on found wood, 13 x 17.5 inches



Lasher, 2023, oil on panel, 14.5 x 9.5 inches



Journal Sketches, 2023, oil on found wood, 10 x 7 inches



Being Human, 2022, oil on found wood, 5 x 7.75 inches



Queen, 2023, oil on found wood, 26 x 14 inches



Three, 2023, oil on found wood, 15.25 x 8.75 inches





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Alberte Tranberg's practice is an exploration of fusion in domestic space.

Works presented highlight Tranberg's craft-based research at the intersection of industry and the home. Her manufactured weld fittings are skillfully assembled into dynamic structures that mimic the inner workings of interior spaces.

These meticulously connected parts undergo a transformation, emerging as seamless, silvery surfaces that occasionally reveal the inherent tension and intricate process behind each individual piece. As a result, these forms resemble growths sprouting from a single pipeline, converging seemingly congested.

Tranberg primarily works with structural steel, drawing inspiration from both the built environment and domestic settings. Her pieces respond to the conventions and properties of her craft. The presented tubular structures symbolize physical infrastructure while attempting to capture moments of softness and to disrupt the rigidity of the everyday. Her practice engages the viewer by subverting our expectations of weight, gravity, light, and movement, inviting us into a world where the boundaries of these fundamental aspects of our reality are redefined.

Alberte Tranberg (b. 1990, Copenhagen, DK) lives and works in Detroit, MI. Tranberg's work has been featured in a multitude of exhibitions and design collaborations including Design Miami with Ornamentum Gallery, Materia; Detroit, Charlottenborg Kunsthal; Copenhagen, Talente 2019; Munich. Most recently Tranberg has designed a series of kitchen cabinet handles for Reform CPH's Atelier Collection, which launched June 2023.

With an MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Metalsmithing and years of professional experience in the metal fabrication trade, Tranberg has honed her practice as an exercise in disrupting traditional craft narrative. Tranberg is a Fulbright Scholarship grantee and has been supported by numerous foundations, including the Danish Arts Foundation and Merchant LF Foghts Foundation.



Stool (legs) I, II, III, 2023, steel, patina, wax



Stool (legs) I + II, 2023, steel, patina, wax



Stool (legs) I, 2023, steel, patina, wax, 24 x 9 x 9 inches



Stool (legs) II, 2023, steel, patina, wax, 36 x 12 x 12 inches



Stool (legs) II (detail), 2023, steel, patina, wax, 36 x 12 x 12 inches



Stool (legs) III, 2023, steel, patina, wax, 45 x 13 x 13 inches



Stool (legs) III (detail), 2023, steel, patina, wax, 45 x 13 x 13 inches



Fixture (light) #6, 2021, steel, patina, wax, 35 x 7 x 7 inches



Fixture (light) #26, 2021, steel, patina, wax, 32 x 3.5 x 3.5 inches



Fixture (light) #9, 2022, steel, patina, wax, 46 x 6.5 x 6.5 inches



Fixture (light) #9 (detail), 2022, steel, patina, wax, 46 x 6.5 x 6.5 inches



Fixture (light) #7, 2021, steel, patina, wax, 65 x 19 x 19 inches



Fixture (light) #16, 2021, steel, patina, wax, 70.5 x 12 x 12 inches



Fixture (light) #4, 2021, steel, patina, wax, 82 x 17 x 17 inches



Fixture (light) #5, 2021, steel, patina, wax, 20 x 3.5 x 3.5 inches



Fixture (light) #33, 2022, steel, patina, wax, 30.5 x 6 x 6 inches



Fixture (light) #10, 2022, steel, patina, wax, 32 x 9 x 9 inches



Fixture (light) #19, 2022, steel, patina, wax, 38 x 7 x 7 inches



Fixture (light) #31, 2023, steel, patina, wax, 38 x 16.5 x 16.5 inches



Fixture (light) #18, 2022, steel, patina, wax, 76 x 12.5 x 12.5 inches



Fixture (light) #34, 2022, steel, patina, wax, 40 x 12.5 x 12.5 inches



Fixture (light) #35, 2021, steel, patina, wax, 69.5 x 16 x 16 inches



Fixture (light) #35 (detail), 2021, steel, patina, wax, 69.5 x 16 x 16 inches



Fixture (light) #32, 2023, steel, patina, wax, 55 x 8.5 x 8.5 inches



Fixture (light) #36, 2023, steel, patina, wax, 55.5 x 14.5 x 15.5 inches



Fixture (light) #28 + #29, 2023, steel, patina, wax, 96 x 3 and 84 x 3 inches



Fixture (light) #28 + 29, 2023, steel, patina, wax, 96 x 3 and 84 x 3 inches