

PRESS RELEASE

Ragen Moss
What Is a Deprivation?
April 27 - June 24, 2023

What Is a Deprivation? is an exhibition by Ragen Moss consisting of twelve sculptures, each suspended from a single point in the ceiling. Moss developed and has been refining her method of making over the last twenty years. Alongside Moss's more recognizable transparent forms with painterly marks, six new works are introduced for the first time: "*Lumens*".

The *Lumens* are Moss's new fire-based sculptures. They evoke her long-standing investment in luminosity and her commitment to addressing sculpture's center. Linguistically, a lumen is both a scientific measure of luminous flux as well as the central cavity of a hollow organic structure. The *Lumens* involve the artist's decision to use fire, combustion and energy as her new sculptural medium. They lend a quality of core intensity, warmth and spirithood to the work. As the artworks consume oxygen – an elemental force of life and existence – they pose questions about energy, lifelessness, mark-making as meaning-making and what it is to be alive. These are questions the artist has returned to time and again.

Ragen Moss (b. 1978 New York) works and lives in Los Angeles, California. Recent solo exhibitions include *Horizon Figures*, Galerie Gisela Capitain, Cologne (2021); *2 Assurances*, Galerie Gisela Capitain, Cologne, (2019); *8 Animals*, Bridget Donahue, New York (2020) *Wolfish Contour*, Ramiken Crucible, New York (2017). Recent group exhibitions include *Day Jobs*, Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, Texas (2023); *Drawings by Sculptors*, organized by Carl D'Alvia, Helena Anrather, New York, New York (2023); *Schatzhaus & Labor: 25 Jahre Museum Kurhaus Kleve*, Museum Kurhaus Kleve, Kleve, Germany (2022); *READ NO READ*, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, Los Angeles, California (2022); *Catechism*, Bridget Donahue, New York, New York (2022); *Towards the Texture of Knowing*, Haggerty Museum of Art (2020); The Whitney Biennial, The Whitney Museum, New York, New York (2019), among others.