

Devening Projects

ELEANNA ANAGNOS

*Lucid*

April 7 - May 18, 2024



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3039 West Carroll, Chicago, IL 60612 USA

312.420.4720 [deveningprojects.com](http://deveningprojects.com)

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It is with great pleasure that Devening Projects presents Eleanna Anagnos's first solo exhibition in Chicago, titled *Lucid*, opening Sunday, April 7. Anagnos works with paper pulp to create objects and vessels that function as active agents capable of containing and projecting worldviews and perceptions and of creating magic. Her artistic practice lies at the unique intersection of painting, sculpture, architecture and construction. Concerned with researching and – literally – digging into the material substratum of the locales where she lives and the rich cultural history of the people who live there, Anagnos brings to life a rarified and visceral viewing experience that requires not just looking, but also absorbing and consuming.

This new body of work combines sculpted paper pulp, pigment, found material and cast objects to bridge the gap between the corporeal and the spiritual. Earthen tones dominate abstract pieces that investigate expanded consciousness, primal memory, symbol-making, touch, ritual, color and meaning formation. Anagnos' process leads to work that is haptic, tactile and introspective.

This debut in Chicago – an important opportunity to present a new body of work to her hometown community – is a significant step for an artist whose life has been built around establishing connections in other rich and diverse settings. Most recently, living, working and raising her young daughter in the Condesa neighborhood of Mexico City, she sought out artists and craftspeople with expertise in nuanced areas of art making, learned from them and responded with her own enigmatic and visionary objects. She finds inspiration and discovers new matrices for her creative concerns within these varied contexts. What the artist encounters, sees, breathes, feels and hears at each place she lives adds layers of sensation to each work. This combination of immersion, collaboration and exposition brings a vital depth and richness to Anagnos' practice. *Lucid* will open April 7 and continue until May 18.



Eleanna Anagnos, *Equilibrium (Hugging the Line)*, 2022, amate fiber mix, clay, rock specimens, pure pigments, and Sumi ink, 21 x 18 x 3.5 inches





Eleanna Anagnos, *Cypher (Dialect series)*, detail, 2023, handmade paper pulp, clay, amate, toilet paper, resin, polyurethane, copper plated found coral, glazed ceramics, pure pigment, Sumi ink, and rock specimens, 45 x 65 x 7 inches





Eleanna Anagnos, *Cypher* (Dialect series), 2023, handmade paper pulp, clay, amate, toilet paper, resin, polyurethane, copper plated found coral, glazed ceramics, pure pigment, Sumi ink, and rock specimens, 45 x 65 x 7 inches



Eleanna Anagnos, Code Breaker (Dialect series), 2023, handmade paper pulp, toilet paper, sand, plaster, rock specimens, sumi ink, and pure pigments, 16 x 12.5 x 2.5 inches





Eleanna Anagnos, Code Breaker (Dialect series), detail, 2023, handmade paper pulp, toilet paper, sand, plaster, rock specimens, sumi ink, and pure pigments, 16 x 12.5 x 2.5 inches





Eleanna Anagnos, Atlas (Hugging the Line), detail. 2023, amate, resin, handmade paper pulp, glass, rock specimens, pure pigment, 70 x 43.4 x 4 inches





Eleanna Anagnos, Atlas (Hugging the Line), 2023, amate, resin, handmade paper pulp, glass, rock specimens, pure pigment, 70 x 43.4 x 4 inches



Eleanna Anagnos, Oracle, 2023, handmade paper pulp, mahogany, oak, and resin  
115 x 66 x 4 inches





Eleanna Anagnos, Oracle, detail, 2023, handmade paper pulp, mahogany, oak, and resin  
115 x 66 x 4 inches



Eleanna Anagnos, Persephone (Dialect series), 2023, handmade paper fibers, amate fibers, clay, acrylic, and pure pigments, 23.5 x 23 x 5 inches





Eleanna Anagnos, Queen of the Night (Dialect series), 2022, handmade paper pulp, copper plated coral, amate, rubber, plaster, vinyl paint, pure pigments, rock specimen, 17.5 x 26 x 4 inches



Eleanna Anagnos, Holding Space (Dialect Series), 2023, handmade paper pulp, clay, acrylic, reclaimed newsprint, amate, and pure pigments, 11 x 11.25 x 2.25 inches





Eleanna Anagnos, Blue Into You (Dialect Series), 2023, handmade paper pulp, clay, acrylic, amate, pure pigments and rock specimens, 16 x 20 x 2.5 inches



Eleanna Anagnos, Antidote (Dialect series), 2023, handmade paper fibers, amate fibers, plaster, rock specimen and pure pigments, 15 × 12.5 × 3 inches





Eleanna Anagnos, Ring Around the Rosie, 2023, handmade paper pulp, resin, amate, black sand, wood and pure pigment, 22 x 21 x 2 inches



Eleanna Anagnos, *Where the Spirit Meets the Bone (Hugging the Line)*, 2020, cotton and linen fibers, clay, rock specimens, pure pigments, urethane, and oil, 20 x 24 x 4.5 inches





Eleanna Anagnos, Dreamweaver (Dialectic series), 2022, handmade paper pulp, clay, amate, acrylic, reclaimed newsprint, pure pigment, 13 x 16 x 2 inches



Eleanna Anagnos

Bio:

Eleanna Anagnos (b.1980, Evanston, Illinois) is a Greek American artist and curator. She works interdisciplinarily and shifts perceptual values by manipulating material hierarchies and processes. Anagnos earned an MFA in Painting from the Tyler School of Art at Temple University and a BA with honors and distinction from Kenyon College with a concentration in Women's and Gender Studies. Her work has been exhibited in the United States and internationally at High Noon Gallery (New York), Material Art Fair (Mexico City), Tiger Strikes Asteroid (Brooklyn), 68 Projects (Berlin), and Galerie Vaclava Spaly (Prague), among others. She has been honored as a Fellow at The Grant Wood Art Colony, The Rauschenberg Foundation, Yaddo, BAU Institute at The Camargo Foundation, The Anderson Ranch and The Atlantic Center for the Arts. Anagnos received grants to support her work from The Joan Mitchell Foundation, The Mayer Foundation and the Artists' Fellowship, Inc.

Anagnos has been a visiting critic and given lectures at numerous institutions, including Brooklyn College, University of Florida, University of Texas, Austin, Universidad Iberoamericana, The Cooper Union, The Stanley Museum at The University of Iowa, Columbia University, Wassaic Projects and SUNY Purchase University. For eight years – 2014 to 2022 – Anagnos was Co-Director at Ortega y Gasset Projects, an artist-run, non-profit gallery in Brooklyn, supporting artists from marginalized and underrepresented communities. Those artist collaborations resulted in long-term creative relationships.

Her curatorial projects have been reviewed or featured in Art in America, The New York Times, Artnet, The Brooklyn Rail and the New York Observer. She continues to curate independently, including her recent curatorial project at Cromatica in Mexico City titled Danielle Firoozi, Let Me Cascade from My Highest Ground.



Recent Press:

Painting with Pulp By Monica Kass Rogers, Sheridan Road Magazine, March 2024

Eleanna Anagnos and Alexis Granwell: Shift. Breathe. Expand. Painting in Space Review by Elizabeth Buhe in Studio International, March 10, 2023

Rock, Paper, Scissors: Negotiating chance, discovery, and possibility with paper pulp: Eleanna Anagnos interviewed by Fawn Krieger in BOMB Magazine, March 2022

Maake Magazine interview with Eleanna Anagnos, issue 12

I Like Your Work podcast, November 16, 2022

[www.eleanna.com](http://www.eleanna.com)