

Brody Albert & Sara Ellen Fowler Shapes from the Extramundane

on view June 22, 2024 – July 20, 2024

EXHIBITION OPENING June 22, 2024, 5–8pm

For Immediate Release

Soldes is pleased to present *Shapes from the Extramundane*, a collaborative exhibition by artist Brody Albert and poet Sara Ellen Fowler. Their exhibition features sculpture and site-specific poetry that explore the extramundane, the generative tension between the everyday and the out-of-this-world.

In poetic theory, a "nonce form" is a poetic form invented for a single purpose or occasion. *Shapes from the Extramundane* proposes an exhibition as a nonce form. In its commitment to a singular occasion, the exhibition emphasizes the lived experience and ephemerality of co-created meaning.

Sara Ellen Fowler's poetry praises, accosts, or summons its readers. Offramp Contrapuntal is composed of words that may be read as either verbs or nouns. Arranged as two interdependent columns of text, this poem frames the 110 freeway offramp through the window of the gallery. Fowler's other monostiches, or one-line poems, dilate in size and intimacy as they navigate the gallery's architecture. Tonal modulation across these fragments are meant to create eddies of emotion or conceptual pockets.

In Brody Albert's artworks, discarded objects have been meticulously recast in the language of sculpture. Ephemeral moments discovered in the built environment are rearranged and hardened in epoxy, plaster and wood. Albert's sculptures propose new functionalities — a birdbath, a sundial and a philosophical object. The extramundane gestures towards what is too great or exceptional for this world. Albert points to the overlooked, that which has been refused or spit out-of-this-world. His sculptures twist these two extremes into contact, offering glimpses of the exalted through the dross of the everyday.

Here's the invitation:

Meander near shapes and the forces that shape them.

Read in public.

Text someone about it.



Brody Albert lives and works in Los Angeles. He holds an MFA from University of California, Irvine (2016), and a BFA from Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, CA (2011). Albert is the associate professor of sculpture at Chaffey College and the co-director of the experimental publishing imprint, OHPAPERS. Selected solo and two-person exhibitions include *Empty Except for the Ghost*, Hunter Shaw Fine Art, Los Angeles (2023); *A,B,C,D* with Nathaniel Klein, Best Practice, San Diego, CA (2022); *We Are All Guests Here*, Bridge Projects, Los Angeles, CA (2021); *Strata*, Pasadena Museum of California Art, Pasadena, CA (2018); *Nonlocal*, Access, Vancouver, BC (2018); *Exit Strategy* with Sara Ellen Fowler, River Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (2017); *Solids*, Contemporary Art Center, Irvine, CA (2016); *Open To The Public*, VA-CANCY, Los Angeles, CA (2016).

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Sara Ellen Fowler is the author of *Two Signatures* (University of Utah Press, 2024), winner of the 2023 Agha Shahid Ali Prize in Poetry (selected by Joan Naviyuk Kane). A recipient of a 2023 California Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship, Sara holds a BFA in Fine Art from Art Center College of Design and an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of California, Riverside. Publication credits include: The Offing, X-TRA, Interim, and Cream City Review, among others.