REBECCA CAMACHO PRESENTS









Anne Buckwalter

I Will Clean the Closet, I Will Climb the Stairs

19 September through 2 November 2024 Opening reception: Thursday 19 September, 6 to 8pm

Rebecca Camacho Presents is pleased to announce *I Will Clean the Closet, I Will Climb the Stairs*, an exhibition of new paintings and works on paper by Anne Buckwalter. Buckwalter's show inaugurates the gallery's new home at 526 Washington Street and fills the main exhibition space and the new Project Room.

The opening reception on Thursday 19 September will begin at 6pm with a dialogue between Anne Buckwalter and Dodie Bellamy, San Francisco based novelist, nonfiction author, journalist and editor, known for her non-traditional use of sexuality, politics, and narrative experimentation.

Demonstrating an expansion of her distinctive aesthetic and critical vantage point, Buckwalter's recent work is a deeper examination into the complexities of our interpersonal relationships. Buckwalter asks how partnerships function when the initial excitement associated with the earliest phases of a relationship – introduction, wooing, and experimentation – solidify into everyday partnerships and daily routines that include the division of domestic chores as well as the titillation of carnal desire.

Exploring gender, sexuality, and queerness, *I Will Clean the Closet, I Will Climb the Stairs* is a continuation of Buckwalter's investigation of the intimacy, and liminalities found in domestic spaces. The exhibition debuts her largest paintings to date in a series that features homes layered with cross-sections of multi-faceted interiors. Each carefully rendered room provides clues and evidence of its varied inhabitants, suggesting how they move between and occupy different rooms within the same space and the traces these movements leave behind. Newly introduced staircases and closets are metaphors for transitional moments in which to traverse or hide, mirroring the transitional, the in-between, and the parts of ourselves that we choose to conceal. Buckwalter's rooms are stacked alongside one another in a staccato-like rhythm of flattened planes occupying the picture's surface. These compressed transitions between rooms as well as the decorative objects that occupy these spaces nod to Buckwalter's biography and the Pennsylvania Dutch culture and traditions – quilting, furnishings, and decorative motifs – that inform her artistic practice.

The spare imagery of Buckwalter's works on paper installed in the Project Room are a stark contrast to the visual cacophony of the paintings on view in the main gallery. Highlighting individual objects one might encounter in Buckwalter's paintings, these works offer the viewer an opportunity to consider the singular items with which the artist imbues particular meaning.

The exhibition also marks the publication of *Laundry Room*, Buckwalter's first book of poetry (published by Rebecca Camacho Presents). *Laundry Room* is inspired by the memories that individual articles of clothing engender, and each composition holds personal significance for the artist.

Anne Buckwalter lives and works in Durham, Maine. She received her BFA from the Tyler School of Art in 2010 and her MFA from Maine College of Art in 2012. She has received grants from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation (2021); Idea Fund (2020); and the Joan Mitchell Foundation Emerging Artist Grant (2016) and been in residence at the Ellis-Beauregard Foundation, Rockland, ME (2023); Mass MoCA, North Adams, MA (2022); Galveston Artist Residency, Galveston, TX (2019-20); and the Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT (2018).

Gallery hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 11am to 5pm