



FJORD Gallery
1720 N. 5th St, Philadelphia, PA 1922

ECHOES, RIPPLES and BUZZED WHISPERS

Sachiko Akiyama and Trevor King

Curated by Chrissy Scolaro

On view: March 1 - April 12, 2025

Opening reception: Saturday, March 1st, 6-9pm

FJORD Gallery is pleased to announce *Echoes, Ripples and Buzzed Whispers* featuring work by Sachiko Akiyama and Trevor King. The exhibition is curated by Chrissy Scolaro and will be on view March 1-April 12. The opening reception will be Saturday, March 1 from 6-9pm.

Echoes, Ripples and Buzzed Whispers brings together two artists whose works embody visualizations of “the life of the mind,” a phrase uttered by John Goodman’s character, Charlie Meadows, in the 1991 Coen brothers film, *Barton Fink*.

Meadows shouts, “**I’ll show you the life of the mind!**” in a moment of carnage. Our interior psychological spaces are rife with both the romance of Whitman (as referenced in the show title, sourced from *Song of Myself, Leaves of Grass*) as well as uninhibited turmoil, exemplified by Meadows.

The phrase attempts to categorize the complexities of being human, from the depths of desires and feelings, to the greatest beliefs and winged possibilities. In Akiyama’s and King’s works, this seemingly impossible feat is approached through sculptures that simultaneously, against the odds of their desirous and psychologically complex content, emit calm and reverence. Focusing on a use of clay and wood, the works lead us to question limitations, or lack thereof, in our collective physical and mental spaces.

King’s ceramic stoneware *Human Man*, a figure who towers at nearly seven feet, casts a gentle look of awe and admiration. Attached to his right leg is a fragment of a walking stick. Appendages like branches, legs like tree trunks. The suspended off cut leads us to consider physical mortality and vulnerability—breakage, truncation, divisions and simultaneously, an ability to persist and thrive—floating, fastening, buoyancy.

Nearby, Akiyama's *Reach*, is in dialogue; an arm is disconnected, yet unbothered and relaxed. In our contemplation of this work, its stillness and inaction is questioned.

Akiyama offers a spectrum of impactful reflections on existence, both physically and spiritually. In the three larger works presented, we experience a variety of mindsets. In both *Carried* and *Waking Dream*, Akiyama's figures are engaged with symbolic elements of nature and environment, proposing psychological spaces. Is the figure in *Carried* independent and fearless or isolated and hopeless? Serendipitously, in the viewing of *Between*, a work that celebrates a multiplicity of readings, the viewer is again challenged to accept a lack of binary interpretation.