

EVERYBODY ANNOUNCES

rocki swiderski
the muck

May 3rd - June 7th, 2025
Opening: Saturday, May 3rd | 7-9pm

Everybody is excited to present *the muck* by rocki swiderski. The muck here is a puddle, a stagnant non-potable cache, the vision of an image reflected upside down.

The exhibition presents a selection of paintings, works on paper, and sculptures made from found objects, truck parts, and dirt. swiderski spends a lot of time with dirt—roaming Tucson’s ditches and washes with their dog, finding discarded material to transform into amulets and sometimes, if they’re lucky, stumbling upon mud or water. Traversing the washes and taking inspiration from them is tied to the traditions of western landscape painting, but for swiderski the landscape expands into both the personal and the political. In swiderski’s paintings, some images are formed through observation while others come forth as visions. Bucolic scenes are woven with less-than-idyllic motifs—power lines, cinder block walls, and urban discard.

Trucks are a theme in these works, which swiderski sees as one of the great American signifiers, a symbol of power, freedom, gender, destruction, a means of escape. Delicate, careful objects and images are contrasted against crude equipment, a busted tailgate, or a faded jack stand. swiderski relies heavily on intuition and chance encounters with images and material, making the works come through as both apocalyptic and dream-like, as quiet prayers for the end times:

*my friend told me you can flail your way into anything
we have to take our chances while we can
courtesy flaps catch mud & pebbles to help you ignore
that if you kick up the shit things get filthy
and there’s nothing sexy about desecration
though i think we can all agree it’s a thrill to rip around off the asphalt
but mud without water is dirt, and
flaps can’t do anything for a dust trail that lingers long after the disruption*

For this exhibition the artist would like to thank Leslie Swiderski, Jack Graydon, Robert Hurley, David Eckard, Mable P, Melissa Dudley, Inmn Neruin, Nika Kaiser, Joanne Willis, Sol Davis, Stephanie Murphy, Gray Hales, the Santa Cruz River wash, Kent’s Tools, Hyperstition Electrolyte Rave, a 1994 Toyota Pickup (blue), a 2007 Nissan Frontier (gray), a 2000 Toyota Tacoma (silver), a 1997 Toyota T100 (black).

rocki swiderski (b. 1994, California) lives and works in Tucson, Arizona. Spanning disciplines, swiderski manipulates color and form to capture the untold essence of the desert southwest. Their focus is currently on boundaries, barriers, natural resources, looking at the sky, and daydreaming about the new world. swiderski's work has been included in recent exhibitions at Stellarhighway (Brooklyn, NY), Rivalry Projects (Buffalo, NY), Georgetown Steamplant (Seattle, WA), and Arusha Gallery (London, EN). They are a 2024 recipient of Night Bloom, Grants for Artists through MOCA Tucson and the Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts. Currently swiderski also co-runs Precious Cargo, a gallery and artist publication project in Tucson, AZ. swiderski is represented by Rivalry Projects, Buffalo, NY.

In 2022 they organized *The Hole in the Fence*, a group show at Everybody through The American Institute of Thoughts and Feelings. They exhibited with Everybody in *Drawings, Paintings, maybe a Sculpture 2*, a group exhibition in 2018.

Everybody is a gallery in Tucson, AZ that primarily works with emerging and perpetually-emerging artists. Its beginnings in Tucson started as a warehouse project space from 2016-2018, followed by an iteration in Chicago, IL from 2019-2020. Everybody's activity has been featured in ARTnews, Arizona Public Media, Contemporary Art Daily, Vulture, and more. Everybody is a member of the New Art Dealers Alliance.