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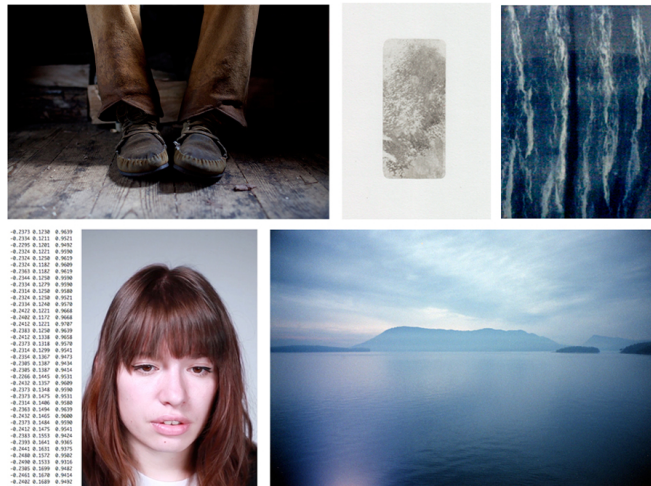
O'BORN CONTEMPORARY presents:

ROMANTICISM NOW
Third Annual Emergent Artists Exhibition

LAYNE HINTON
PARKER KAY
STU MONCK
RYAN WALKER
IAN WILLMS

JANUARY 11 – JANUARY 25, 2014

www.oborncontemporary.com



DATES:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2014, 2 – 5 p.m.
Exhibition Opening and Reception
Artists will be in attendance.

LOCATION:

131 Ossington Avenue, Toronto.

GALLERY HOURS:

Tuesday – Saturday, 11 – 6 and by appointment.

TELEPHONE:

416.413.9555

EXHIBITION STATEMENT

Anachronisms are ubiquitous in contemporary society - vintage goods are in high demand, musical trends support the recirculation of old bands that are then re-cast into history's pool of dismissed creative out-put, and, though never identical in aesthetic, Avant Garde art movements emerge at least once per decade, placing the tenets of Dada in the context of Fluxus, and those of Fluxus in the context of today's Anti-art progenitors.

Remarkably, the political disruption and technological race occupying the world's attention in our current state has disguised the resurfacing of another artistic movement - one that is so philosophically and intellectually subtle, it might go unnoticed. Romanticism in the 21st century has emerged not only in reaction to the technological revolution, but further, due to a need for wonder in the stark light of today's political realities. Do symbolic and, further, geographically symbolic, narratives still have relevance within secular discourses today? Perhaps because technological advancement has caught up with our own imaginings of the virtual, art has returned to ruminating on antique subjects such as physical endurance; the crossover between histories and geographies; melancholy and the solitary; the terror of the sublime; and Arcadian landscapes.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

LAYNE HINTON is a Toronto-based artist. She holds a BFA in Integrated Media from OCADU with a minor in printmaking, as well as a semester abroad at L'École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts, Paris. She recently completed a residency at the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. Hinton is a curator/coordinator for the Art Spin collective, programming multi-disciplinary site-specific projects for a bicycled and guided art event. Awards include the InterAccess Award, OCADU Printmaking Award, International Education Opportunity Scholarship and OCADU Faculty Film/Video Scholarship. Her work has been shown at the Art Gallery of Ontario; the Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg; YYZ Artist's Outlet; L'École des Beaux Arts, Paris; Hazelton Lanes; and The Gladstone Hotel with two upcoming solo shows at the SOHO Lobby Gallery and InterAccess Electronic Media Arts Centre in 2014.

PARKER KAY is a multi-media artist who has had his work shown internationally and is currently working and studying in Toronto Ontario. Parker strives to articulate concepts in the medium best suited to do so, for the most part using film, sculpture, photography, physical computing, and web based media. Much of Parker's work responds to an internet-aware culture. Parker also explores notions of embodiment, archival practices, and experience design.

STU MONCK was born in northern Ontario and educated in Toronto and Paris, France. His practice includes photography, installation, text and time-based projects. The subject matter is pulled from many sources including patterns by William Morris, the poetry of Douglas Blazek, discarded scraps of wallpaper, and the dreams of Michel Leiris. His recent photo-based projects create a discourse between digital images and traditional photographic principles.

Perception is an enduring aspect of Monck's photographic and time-based works; how we read an image, object, or fragment of text, is explored throughout his practice. Furthermore, his use of material plays into this notion; the formal qualities of his images and objects are chosen specifically, like language, to suggest certain thoughts and ways of seeing. At close range, Monck's large Harrison prints can overwhelm the visual field-from farther away, their reflective surface refracts light and limits how the works are seen. Pulling toward and away from the canvases, the viewer's attention shifts between the accurate details of each image and the deflection of light. In this significant way, the series of cyanotypes function to depict nature while working against a clear representation of wilderness. Monck currently lives and works between Warsaw and Toronto.

RYAN WALKER is an emerging photographer based in Toronto, specializing in social documentary, editorial photography, and visual advocacy. Having graduated in 2013, Walker holds an MFA in Documentary Media from Ryerson University. His creative practice explores intimate storytelling through film and photographic mediums.

Walker's work has been exhibited in Canada and the United States. He has also received several awards, grants, and scholarships including the Magenta Flash Forward Emerging Photographers award, an Ontario Graduate Fellowship, and a Magnum Photos scholarship.

Propelled by a curiosity to explore unique narratives, Walker's work attempts to blur the boundaries between photojournalism, documentary, and conceptual art.

IAN WILLMS was born in Kitchener, Ontario, in 1985. He is a documentary photographer who works to tell the stories of the disempowered peoples, abandoned environments, and dying cultures that are casualties of modern society. His work seeks to explore the notion of "progress" and the intimate misfortunes left in its wake. Ian is currently a member of the Boreal Collective and Reportage by Getty Images Emerging Talent. He is based in Toronto.

For media information:

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