Gretchen Marie Schaefer

Folding and Thrusting

Guest curated by Cortney Lane Stell

October 3 – January 19, 2020
Gretchen Marie Schaefer: Folding and Thrusting

Folding and Thrusting presents new work by Denver-based artist Gretchen Marie Schaefer. Rooted in geology, the exhibition features a large-scale, dimensional painting and photographic works that combine geological abstraction with notions of perception. This exhibition expands on her most recent body of work that challenges our relationship with the earth, delving into the implicit power dynamics embedded in common ways of seeing the world. By challenging these common assumptions, Schaefer’s sculptural paintings and photographs explore the nature of vision and the cultural frameworks that bolster worldviews.

Special thanks to Alicia Ordal, Kevin Raleigh, Jonathan Chaikin, and Ken and Kathy Schaefer for their support in the production of the work for this exhibition.

Artwork Titles

Ordinary and Absurd (series), 2019
archival inkjet prints

Rock, 2019
acrylic on paper mâché


Artist and Curator Biographies

**Gretchen Marie Schaefer** currently works in Denver, Colorado, where she was born and raised. She holds a bachelor’s degree in English Literature and Visual Arts from Regis University. She is an alumna of the Artist-in-Residence program at RedLine Denver, where she also served as an Artist Representative on the Board of Directors and on the Education Committee. Schaefer currently works as the Visiting Artist, Scholar, and Designer (VASD) Program Director at Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design, where she has hosted artists Miranda July, Judy Chicago, Andrea Zittel, and Dario Robleto, among many others. She is a founding member of TANK Studios, LLC. She also serves on the Artist Research Committee at the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver and is on the Board of Tilt West, a non-profit dedicated to fostering critical dialog in art and culture in Denver.

In 2014 Schaefer was listed as one of Westword’s “100 Colorado Creatives,” and in 2016 she received Westword’s “Best Of” for her work directing the VASD Program. Exhibitions of her artwork include group and solo shows at the University of Colorado Boulder Art Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, David B. Smith Gallery, Emmanuel Gallery, RedLine, Rude Gallery, Gildar Gallery, Rule Gallery, Regis University, the National Center for Atmospheric Research, and a collaborative project with the contemporary ballet company Wonderbound. Schaefer’s public talks include “Expert Talk” with Conor King at Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art and a presentation at the College Advisory Committee of the Denver Art Museum’s 20th Annual Symposium in Art and Art History.

**Cortney Lane Stell**, Guest Curator, is the Executive Director + Chief Curator of Black Cube, a nomadic contemporary art museum based in Denver, Colorado. She has held an independent curatorial practice since 2006, which has included curating numerous exhibitions nationally and internationally for museums, university galleries, biennials and art events. Stemming from a philosophical interest in art as communication, Stell has organized exhibitions that focus on artworks experimental in both conceptual and material nature, including exhibitions with artists such as Liam Gillick, Cyprien Gaillard, Daniel Arsham, and Shirley Tse. Stell holds a MA from the European Graduate School in Switzerland where she is also a PhD candidate in Media Communications.
Exhibition-related Programs

Opening Reception
October 3
5:30pm member preview
6:30-8:30pm free public reception

Adriana Corral Artist Talk
Hear from Exhibiting Artist Adriana Corral and Guest Curator Cortney Lane Stell about issues of social justice and the inspiration behind Unearthed/Desenterrado.
October 6
Doors open at 4:30pm
5-6pm
Free

Q&A with Artist Gretchen Marie Schaefer
An interview with Gretchen Marie Schaefer exploring her work that combines geographic abstraction with notions of perception.
November 21
6-7:30pm
$12 / $8 members

3rd Law Dance / Theater Immersive Performance
3rd Law Co-Directors Katie Elliott and Paul Fowler create original choreography and a soundscore inspired by the work of Gretchen Marie Schaefer.
January 16
6-7pm, 7-8pm
$12 / $8 members

Current & Upcoming Exhibitions

BMoCA @ Macky
Helen Zughaib: Stories My Father Told Me
August 21 – November 24, 2019

InsideOut
Pard Morrison: Heartmouth
August 17, 2018 – December 31, 2019

Spring 2020 Exhibitions

Night Reels: The Work of Stacey Steers
January 30 – May 25, 2020
Guest Curated by Kim Dickey

Margaretta Gilboy: A Retrospective
January 30 – May 25, 2020
Guest Curated by Simon Zalkind

Thank you to our generous sponsors:

Please Do Not Touch Works of Art
Flash Photography Not Permitted