Spring Exhibition 2022

Erica Green: Once They Were Red  March 3 – June 12, 2022

Union Works Gallery
Erica Green: Once They Were Red

Erica Green’s site-conscious fiber installations explore the endless process of repairing and rebuilding oneself. Her practice calls to mind a kind of marathon or endurance-based approach to working in that each strip of fabric, knot, and tie is a paced passage of time. While a knot typically represents a stopping point, Green’s practice utilizes the knot as a symbolic gesture for mending and continuation. The artist’s work is shaped by hardship and by tensions between elements/forces that are both strong and fragile, messy and disciplined, heavy and light. Despite these dueling oppositions, each installation evokes comfort and pause amid the complexities of time and healing.

This exhibition demonstrates Green’s ability to thoughtfully “read” architecture and create work that simultaneously responds to and feels at home within a space. The artist recognizes certain areas where her work can live, carving out intentional sites for intervention and activation. Green’s latest work, Once They Were Red, rests in the window cut-outs of the gallery. Each opening holds an accumulation of knotted white felt held together by handcrafted pins, which progress in color and saturation in a gradient of deep red to white. She explores this concept further by introducing pins, which are used in mending, sewing, marking, and holding things together. Although tiny and at times subtle, the pins are substantial, monumental marks steeped in metaphor for healing and the passage of time.

Green’s attention to space is mirrored in her ability to create a particular atmosphere. The entrance to the gallery is coated in a dark navy hue, which typically conveys a kind of denseness or sorrow. She counters that intensity by hanging white “chandeliers” within a windowless room. Green leans into this tension between light and dark. She invites viewers to walk around the forest of simulated light and find balance within the dark space. Collectively, the works elicit a sense of comfort and moments of reflection amid the complex process of how the simple knots accumulate, blend, and harmonize among their monochromatic counterparts, becoming impossible to distinguish.

Cover Image: Erica Green, Once They Were Red (detail), 2021, knotted felt, metal, clay, wax and paint. Courtesy of Wes Magyar.
About the Artist

Erica Green is an installation artist whose site-specific work focuses on the seemingly unending process of repairing and rebuilding oneself. She mends or knots simple fibers together in a meditative, prolific manner. The work gradually becomes a visual accumulation and record of the time it takes to heal. Each moment, each struggle blends with those that came before and eventually become impossible to distinguish. Looking back, the viewer realizes that this timeless human undertaking is simultaneously strong and fragile, messy and disciplined, heavy and light.

Green received a BFA from the University of Nebraska and completed a two-year post-baccalaureate program at the University of Colorado Boulder. Her work has been shown nationally in galleries, such as RULE Gallery and RedLine Contemporary Art Center. In 2019, she was awarded The Director’s Award in The Art of the State exhibition at the Arvada Center for the Arts. Green lives and works in Boulder.
Exhibition-related Programs

On-Site Opening Reception
Thursday, March 3
5pm member preview
6-8pm free public reception
Remarks by Curator Pamela Meadows, Exhibiting Artists, and Executive Director + Chief Curator David Dadone will occur throughout the evening.

Virtual Artist/Curator Talk: Time
April 7
5-6:30pm
Join BMoCA Curator Pamela Meadows in conversation via Zoom with the Spring 2022 Exhibiting Artists Natani Notah, Kevin Townsend and Erica Green as they discuss the inspiration and concept of the exhibitions and dive into the unifying theme of Time that influences all three of the exhibitions.

Current & Upcoming Exhibitions

Natani Notah: Inner Lining
March 3 – June 12

works by Kevin Townsend
March 3 – June 12

InsideOut
El movimiento sigue (The movement continues)
March 23, 2021 – October 23, 2022

BMoCA at Macky
Natasha Mistry: Imaginearia
January 11, 2022 – May 1, 2022

Summer 2022
Sofie Ramos: Journey to a New World
June 23 – September 5, 2022

Grossly Affectionate
June 23 – September 5, 2022

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