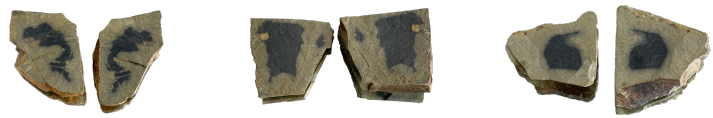


Long Play Contemporary

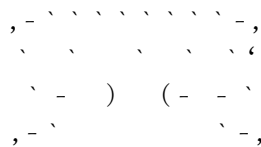
RE : “Afloat Afield”

Co-Directors: Luke Palascak + Ruth Palascak



Years ago, I began finding & collecting what I called “mirrored rocks” - pairs of shale pieces that split in a specific way, revealing variations of minerals imprinted within. I saw ephemeral scenes, symbols, and shapes represented in them, somehow made infinitely more powerful in tandem. I am attracted to how each recognizes the other, and connections made between “opposing” sides led me to wonder what, invisibly, lies at the center?

This concept of collecting and arranging rock pairs occurred while dissolving Santa Monica Prefecture (programming 2016-2019) into Long Play Contemporary (established 2023) and curating what would become “Afloat Afield.” It wasn’t until installing the work, however, I noticed the late afternoon sun slowly roll across the alley into the garage, reflecting through the rocks, into the mirrors, and onto the walls— shimmering, as if to say “..yes, go on ...”



Deborah Hede’s “Coalescence” (2020) offers a beacon of luminous essence- a transformation caught in suspension between loss and lightness. Anastasia Tokmakova’s “Flame Walking” (2020) provides a glimpse into how the depths of the psyche might playfully affect focus, attention, and desire.

Cyrrilla Mozenter’s “This one which they think I think is alone” (2023) sees two figures of felt, compressed multitudes, suspended by a specified distance, held carefully in place with colored silk thread. They are playing- in dialogue. Opposite this wall, two of Cyrrilla’s rarer-seen charcoal works from 1990 conceptually frame aspects of how the rest of work is considered together. They are : “Untitled (Window II)” & “Untitled (Light).”

Ajit Chauhan’s “Weed Jewelry” (2023) and Janelle Borsberry’s “Summer” (2023) immediately open up an intimacy with the natural world. Ajit highlights our inherent interdependency- the very fabric of reality- while Janelle’s sand infused landscape inspires a quality of contemplative joy.

The insight of these artists and their work together inspired the inclusion of 33 rock pairs I arranged, which now anchor the show from a low, mirrored shelf. As such, they have become a sort of recognition key to understanding the heart of Long Play Contemporary : celebration of fine art in relation to the endless mirror. The ribbon is cut..! Thank you.

“Afloat Afield” runs through September 29 , 2023.

-Luke Palascak