

Higher! Higher! Lower, Lower.
Louder! Louder! Sofer, Softer
WITH

Zarouhie Abdalian Gwenneth Boelens,
Elena Narbutaite, and Shanta Rao

An unfolding exhibition over one year with contributions by Zarouhie Abdalian, Dean Bowen, Gwenneth Boelens, Stanley Brown, Liu Chao-tze, Theo van Doesburg, Marcel Duchamp, Joseph Grigely, Gordon Hall, Ian Kiaer, Elena Narbutaite, Kate Newby, Shanta Rao, Katie West, Ma Qiusha and friends.

Artists

Until September, Waterfall#2: Look At The View by Liu Chao-tze opened Shimmer up to works by Gwenneth Boelens and Shanta Rao. Gwenneth's and Shanta's works are woven from and cast out of industrial material creating intimate works that call for a slowing of time to reveal themselves. Radiant and glowing is Liar's Cloth (strip), 2017 by Gwenneth, a handwoven cloth, of electro-conductive and reflective fibres. Whereas the semi-translucent glittering soft sculpture, Untitled, 2018, by Shanta Rao was developed in a port-city with the use of marine paint. A highly elastic paint originally intended for ship hulls which dries with a skin-like quality. Together and apart, we are struck how both works appear at once digital yet tactile and amorphous, fixed and unfixed.

Entering into the exhibition in October is Fumy Frig Sour, 2018 by Elena Narbutaite, a long laser line that cuts across the exhibition space. In Fumy Frig Sour we see a sharp 'cut' of light between the exhibition space and the artwork, but also the sharpness of industrial light and tools. The kind of light is used to read and write optical disks, to transfer data. We are excited to curate Fumy Frig Sour with the soft tactility of Rao's sculpture that allows light to pass through it and a reflective, conductive textile installation of Boelens.

Fumy Frig Sour is exhibited alongside three Joints, 2019 by Zarouhie Abdalian. In this work, Zarouhie grinds back the surface of simple hand held tools by reducing them to their surface before time has altered them. Zarouhie hand mirrors these tools to create an ethereal quality of light that evokes the aura of self-worth that once ennobled workers who now often feel sidelined by widespread workplace changes. For Shimmer, Joints will be installed in different positions to adapt to Shimmer when other artworks enter the exhibition

Zarouhie Abdalian (1982, US/AR) has had shows at Berkeley Art Museum, Secession, Vienna; Wattis Institute of Contemporary Art, San Francisco; Whitney Biennial, New York; and SFMOMA San Francisco and many more. Courtesy of the artist and Altman Siegal.

Gwenneth Boelens (1980, NL) has exhibited at MIT List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge; Klemm, Berlin; Kunsthalle Exnergasse, Vienna among many others. Courtesy of the artist and galerie Klemm.

Elena Narbutaite (1984, LI) exhibited in Liverpool Biennial; Lithuanian and Cyprus Pavilion at the Venice Biennale; Tai Kwun Contemporary, Hong Kong, and Contemporary Art Center, Vilnius and more. Courtesy of the artist and PM8 Gallery.

Shanta Rao (1980, IN/FR) Recent shows were at galerie Joseph Tang, Paris; Kunstverein am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, Berlin; Fondation Ricard, Paris among others. Courtesy of the artist & galerie Joseph Tang, Avin Jarijs & Tuukka Laurila.

Work List

Zarouhie Abdalian, Joint (xi), 2019, Joint (xii), 2019, Joint (xiii), 2019, mirrored hand tools

Gwenneth Boelens, Liar's Cloth (strip), 2017, electro conductive and reflective fibers.

Elena Narbutaite, Fumy Frig Sour, 2018, laser.

Shanta Rao, Untitled, 2018, Polymer paint.

Building from Shimmer's first program of fading exhibitions in, through, and out of each other, we now shift rhythms by curating singular artworks over stretches of time. Higher! Higher! Lower, Lower. Louder! Louder! Softer, Softer embodies slow deliberate processes with a changing register. By doing so the exhibition moves like water, unfixed, in motion. We understand the exhibition as a choreographic score where through shifting rhythms, registers, and movements artworks overlap, where ideas and generations cross-over. The format of our exhibition unfolds over time, opening up and crossing conceptual, spatial, and temporal borders.

We are entering into times of deep environmental, global and mechanical change, where we need all the knowledge and crossovers we can get our hands-on. On our horizon are radical shifts of what and how we mean to each other, how we come together and how we share. With this in mind, we curate to reconsider the past to shape the future and to better accommodate us in the present. To not confine a history, a practice, a thought, an audience particular categories, but to give us all as much room as possible to draw alliances with artworks and each other.

Shimmer

On the edge of Rotterdam's port, Shimmer is an exhibition space that operates with an ever-changing studio-like mentality where knowledge arises through participation and experimentation. Alongside the exhibitions are platforms such as the events program Sunday Mornings and the online mixtapes On the Waves, as a means to move through personal and public space.

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Schedule

September: Gwenneth Boelens, Liu Chao-tze, Shanta Rao
October: Zarouhie Abdalian, Gwenneth Boelens, Elena Narbutaite, Shanta Rao
November: Zarouhie Abdalian, Gwenneth Boelens, Dean Bowen, Marcel Duchamp, Elena Narbutaite
December: Zarouhie Abdalian, Marcel Duchamp, Elena Narbutaite, Ma Qiusha
January: Zarouhie Abdalian, Theo van Doesburg, Gordon Hall, Ma Qiusha
February: Theo van Doesburg, Joseph Grigely, Gordon Hall, Ian Kiaer, Ma Qiusha
March: Theo van Doesburg, Joseph Grigely, Gordon Hall, Ian Kiaer, Kate Newby
April: Joseph Grigely, Gordon Hall, Ian Kiaer, Kate Newby
May: Kate Newby, Katie West
June: Katie West, stanely brouwn
July: stanely brouwn

Support

At this time, our exhibition program goes unfunded, although we have the funds to pay the artists modestly and cover our rent until July 2020. Shimmer is run on a volunteer basis: directors, hosts and the board of supervisors alike. If you would like to support Shimmer, please get in touch, we would love to hear from you