BASEMENT WORKSHOP SERIES



LUmkA is pleased to present its second exhibition, *Basement Workshop Series*, at 207 Clinton Street, NYC, NY. Opening 18 April the exhibition will present a rotation of three installations by Ashley Condina, Lucy Tarquinio, and Luca Rekosh. Please join us for the opening reception of each installation, 18 April, 24 April, and 7 May 2024 from 7- 9 PM.

Now, more than ever, the notion of agency in media participation is illusory. In the words of Guy Debord, "The spectacle is capital accumulated to the point where it becomes an image." The Age of Information has organized a model of hyper accessible consumption of said image. Spectacle, as it operates in today's image-based culture, propagates an entitlement to view, consume, have access to, and excess of. This positive feedback loop alters the collective subconscious and brings about the normalization of (and desensitization to) voyeurism.

In response, LUmkA invites three artists of varying

disciplines to contribute site-specific work to its unconventional basement setting. The space, only accessible by ladder, hinders and interrupts the gaze as an effort to question consumption and commodification.

Observed singularly, the exhibition asks each viewer to contemplate and challenge their own subconscious voyeuristic tendencies. Each artist's experimental and multi-sensory language complicates the relationship between viewer and viewed, while exploring themes of surveillance, subjectivity, and accessibility. Refusing immediacy of consumption, *Basement Workshop Series* stages an intervention for intentional and self-aware perception.

ASHLEY CONDINA 18 - 21 April 2024

Concerned with the dichotomy between the preserved and the omitted, Condina documents her daily choreographies to question notions of linearity, consent, and privacy. The artist analyzes documentation and conservation as political acts, using symbolism and mythology to organize an environmental installation with lapses in conventions of time. Condina transforms the gallery space into a tableau of personal symbolism. Video performance and multimedia sculptures organize a language of cultural touchstones and communicate the innate voyeurism and passive consumption of our culture. Emphasizing the artist's own lineage, the exhibition serves as both a self portrait and a mirror to how one is remembered and perceived.

CONDINA (b. 1988) is a Brooklyn, NY born and based Sicilian/Italian-American interdisciplinary artist and filmmaker working in land, performance, textile, ceramics, and painting. The artist's practice utilizes duration, repetition, labor, and self-documentation to test the boundaries of the human condition. Employing themes of (re)birth, womanhood, and embodied memory, Condina organizes a dialogue between earth and body to explore humanity's relationship with nature. The artist's performance-based work was exhibited at the 2022 Venice Biennale, the Museum of Texas Tech University 2020 exhibition, Land Arts of the American West, among other international galleries.

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Beaconing from the darkness, fragments of words, objects, and memories intersect. Tethering language, representation, and abstraction, the line communicates an optical system of layers— an organized chaos of process. Exuding an aura of play and humor, the spotlighted paintings emphasize the process of processing, the process of painting, the process of committing into memory. Realizing her reality, Tarquinio's elusive practice is rooted in the rigor of formalism, yet invites the intervention of absurd photo-material when the process becomes too systematic.

Hanging as tangible memories, Tarquinio's innermost thoughts and experiences communicate through the breath of abstraction. Cheekily liaising with the viewer's eye, this accumulation of studio choreographies manifest into an illegible language. Protected, the arranged layers form a shroud and persist against the eye of the Spectacle. Subverting hyper visibility innate to painting, Tarquinio concocts a visual rabbit hole. Upon observation, the image-trained eye desperately bounces up and down, back and forth and, between layers searching for representational values—the more immersed, the more lost.

TARQUINIO, (b. 1999) a New York-based artist, obtained her BFA from Cooper Union in 2021. Exploring the line's elusive role in representation, abstraction, and language, the artist's process-based practice obscures ideas of familiarity, oscillating between literal and imagined. As an intervention to Tarquinio's system, unique and absurd photo material inspires further exploration into the realm of abstraction. The finished product, skewed and abstracted into a chromatically layered composition, encrypts the trials and tribulations of the artist's rigorous and intimate process. Tarquinio is a recent recipient of the 2023 Abbey Scholarship in Painting and 2022 Rolf G. Haerem Paint Award. The artist's work has been shown internationally at the Fundacion Maceta, Mexico City, Mexico; Romanian Academy in Rome, Rome, Italy; The British School, Rome, Italy; among others.

LUCA REKOSH 7 - 19 May 2024

Utilizing the linear perspective found in Renaissance paintings, Rekosh places the places the figure central and intertwined within the canon of Western and Eurocentric art history, social systems, and architecture. The artist excavates symbology from the past, intertwining it with the present to question systemic voyeurism and the maintenance of power structures. Rekosh creates a paradoxical space to tremble, inviting reflection on accessibility and identity as shaped by both physical architecture and societal conventions.

REKOSH (b. 2001) is a Romanian-American, Brooklyn-based artist. Born in Manhattan, the artist spent formative years in Budapest and New York City, returning to New York permanently in 2008. Informed by a classical and life-long art education, Rekosh constructs multimedia sculptures that bridge cultures, mediums, and languages, exploring politics of accessibility in societal systems. The artist graduated from Pratt Institute in 2023 with a BFA in Sculpture and Integrated Practices. Rekosh is a 2024 recipient of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) for the FY2024 grant