

Latent Longing

Nora Aurrekoetxea
Jack O'Brien
Alfredo Rodríguez

9 French Place, London, E1 6JB
7 July - 24 July, 2-7pm
Open by Appointment

SUPER Preview and Intersticio, in collaboration with Valeria Biamonti, are delighted to present *Latent Longing*, an exhibition featuring works by Nora Aurrekoetxea, Jack O'Brien and Alfredo Rodríguez.

Entirely subtle yet startlingly emotive. Humble materials and abstract lines do anything but alienate; the exhibition is striving and succeeding, beautifully seductive.

Of a personal, sometimes tortured, but truly sober kind, Nora Aurrekoetxea's iron Makila sticks reach, reinforce, and thrust. Distorting, warping, and scratching into a formal exploration between structure and ornament. The intimate and impassioned calm of Alfredo Rodríguez's work is visible in the crystallised ephemeral glances that hang around bodies in spacetime.

And the intensely curious and vulnerable work of Jack O'Brien, whose materials are deployed with a poignancy and wit, is charged with the erotic. Gentle inspections of notions like shame and taboo.

There is something latent—in the truest sense—*manifesting* here.

Aurrekoetxea navigates and exploits the tension between the cultural embedded sphere and materiality. With O'Brien's rubber, silicon and curls of dried flowers, there is no soppy veneration of marginalised materials. Instead, there is a kind of magnanimity towards them. Rodríguez's devotion to the photographic process *per sé* leads to a unique engagement with the medium. Almost as a rejection of the transient inadequacies of the digital.

No apathy is to be found in the deftly and honestly explored ambiguities of the *abstract and yet concrete yearning* behind these works.

Aurrekoetxea, O'Brien, Rodríguez: three artists differently and diligently forging away at the overt tangibility of the abstract, reaching out to something present yet invisible.

The works are positively earnest, and they extend an invitation to come closer, to touch with our eyes.

Valeria Biamonti

INTERSTICIO

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Nora Aurrekoetxea

Nora Aurrekoetxea (Bilbao, Spain, 1989) is an artist who develops her practice through writing, sculpture, performance and installation. Her work explores the meeting points between the tangible and intangible, the materiality involved in the emotions, interactions and personal intimate relationships between humans as well as the surroundings they inhabit. Aurrekoetxea is interested in exploring the relational, symbolic and linguistic qualities involved in the material, as a starting point to force encounters or displacements between the physical and the emotional (untouchable). Her installations pursue a radical instability where materiality wants to achieve its own autonomy. She holds a BA in Fine Arts from the University of the Basque Country (Bilbao, Spain) and a MA in Sculpture by the Royal College of Art (London, UK) and is currently studying an Advanced Sexology Postgraduate course at In.ci.sex. (Madrid,

Spain). She received the Botín Foundation Scholarship in 2017 and has been an artist in residence at BilbaoArte (2015), Cité Internationale des Arts of Paris (2018), the Solomon R. Guggenheim of New York (2018) and Youkobo Art Space, Tokyo (2022). She has been awarded with the Basque Government production grant (2018 and 2019), the ARCO prize of the city of Madrid (2020) and ERTIBIL (2020 and 2021). Recent shows include a solo exhibition at Intersticio (London, 2020), Juan Silió gallery (Madrid, 2020) or group shows like Claro del Bosque at Intersticio (Madrid, 2020) and We Are Always On Danger Of Magicat Rodriguez gallery (Poznan, 2021). Her work is part of the permanent collection of the museum Ca2m (Madrid, Spain) and Centro Botín (Santander, Spain). Aurrekoetxea is represented by Intersticio and Juan Silió she lives and works in Holand.

Jack O'Brien

Jack O'Brien (Boston, UK, 1993) explores the relationship between the built environment, material, culture and marginalised aesthetics. His practice juxtaposes industrial and craft materials alongside found and personal objects including steel, wood, dried flowers, socks, printed paper, horse-hair braid, rubber, concrete and latex. Drawing on industrial, fashion design, image-making and architectural practice, the artist creates emotive, direct sculptures which consider the political and ideological histories of consumption and the produc-

tion of desire. Jack O'Brien's work has been widely exhibited in solo and group presentations, at a number of artist-run organisations that situate themselves at the core of the emerging-London art scene, alongside well-respected LGBT venues and galleries in the UK and internationally. Between 2016 and 2021, these have included White Cubicle Gallery, clearview.ltd, Pervilion, One Room and Becky's (all London). International exhibitions include KEM (Warsaw) or Peres Projects (Berlin). Jack O'Brien lives and works in London.

Alfredo Rodríguez

Alfredo Rodríguez (Madrid, Spain, 1976) works around the photographic medium, subjecting it to experimental processes of variable complexity in his studio and laboratory. As a starting point in his practice, Rodríguez usually takes images referring to the body that ends up being transformed into an equivocal presence, moving away from the singularity of the physiognomy and approaching an idea of expanded flesh. The time of chemistry, photosensitive materials, light, his partner's body and the material imprint of the photographic go through all the phases of this process, giving rise to a desire to erase or to a fading of the time of the image. In this way, his research pursues a maddened

conservation of the ephemeral, by (or 'while') trying to provide the whole set of events and materials with a stable permanence, as if it were a crystallisation. Rodríguez is represented by Espacio Valverde in Madrid and has recently exhibited at the Museum Centro de Arte 2 de Mayo (CA2M) in Madrid, Montecristo Project (Sardinia), Matadero (Madrid), Sala Arte Joven (Madrid), ATM gallery and the Istituto Europeo di Design, among others. He studied photography at Art School 10 and specialised in the History of Photographic Processes at ES-CRBC in Madrid. Alfredo Rodríguez works and lives in Madrid, Spain.

Intersticio is a contemporary art gallery based in London and Madrid. Founded by Cristina Herraiz in 2020, it is now directed by Ana Coronel de Palma, Sol Abaurrea and Cristina Herraiz after opening a second space in Madrid in March 2021.

SUPER Preview is a series of temporary exhibitions showcasing the most exciting emerging visual artists carefully selected by BeAdvisors Art Department. SUPER Preview is focused on artists at an early stage of their career: the idea is providing them visibility, supporting their artistic path and develop new forms of cultural exchange on an international scale in collaboration with their respective galleries.