

Summer night wishes

a group show curated by Marie-Salomé Peyronnel

with works by Pétrel-Roumagnac, Andrew Erdos, Riitta Ikonen, Takao Shiraishi, Gustavo Prado, Ugo Schildge and Fabrizio Moretti.

Opening reception: Wednesday, May 31, 2017 - 5-8PM

Exhibition dates: June 1 - June 13, 2017

Visit us on weekdays from 12-6PM and on weekends 10-6PM, weather permitting.



De rêves, Act 1, 2016, Pétrel-Roumagnac

The group show *Summer Night Wishes*, curated by Marie-Salomé Peyronnel, evokes the importance of nature in the city, the impact of man on landscapes, and acknowledges the vital (and sometimes irrecoverable) role of movement and cycles in nature. It echoes the transitions the neighborhood of Nolita is going through and that are embodied by the ominous future of Elizabeth Street Garden, under threat of being destroyed by the city for housing. *Summer Night Wishes* invites the audience into dreams and reveries of artists, using these times of transitions and possible losses to imagine and dream for a better future, for ourselves as much as for our environment.

About the artists:

French duo **Pétrel-Roumagnac** (composed of photographer Aurélie Pétrel and scenographer Vincent Roumagnac) reinterprets the *A midsummer night's dream* play by William Shakespeare. Pictures of actors rehearsing the famous play are printed on various materials such as plexiglass, plaster, stones...: some materials evoke nature, some evoke craft and human action. The ones on plexiglass act like a mirror and reflect the garden where the pictures are displayed in stacks. It's a « mise en abîme » of this new stage.

They have invited Swiss visual artist **Nagi Gianni** and American artist **Ella Barnes** to collaborate with them and activate the piece at night, a time of transition between sunset and dawn, where everything can happen: elements are moved, reorganized and/or added.

Since Elizabeth Street Garden is full of antics it will give an interesting echo to the many layers of the manifold temporalities contained not only in the original play (Nordic Tales, Greek Antiquity, UK in the 16th century...) but also through the reactivations of the piece *de rêves* itself.

Finish artist **Riitta Ikonen's** practice uses nature as the stage for her performances as much as a tool and media for her artworks. She cut the wilted flowers that winter left behind in the garden and recycled them into a giant protective figure inspired by tribal masks.

Fabrizio Morretti is a musician (The Strokes, Little Joy) and a visual artist. In Elizabeth Street Garden, he presents for the first time ever his piece « Brett », a delicate and poignant installation using sunlight to bring to life the ghost of a passed loved one. Every day at a particular moment, a sun ray strikes the mirrors, and thanks to very precise calculations, Brett's image appears on the wall/floor.

American artist **Andrew Erdos'** work investigates the complex relationship between humankind and its environment. He displays "Incantations" one of his glass mountains sculptures, a series of monumental works which inquire and celebrate the intense geological energy of the earth, and man's ability to transfer nature and its energy into its new states and materials.

Brazilian sculptor **Gustavo Prado** displays a work made of mirrors from his series *The Measure of dispersion*. This one is inspired by the ancient myth of Daphne turning into the tree

after being touched by Apollo. Like Bernini's sculpture of Daphne and Apollo, Gustavo Prado's tree sculpture attempts to encapsulate perpetual movement while also playing with the ancient myth by bringing together the sun and the tree. Last April, he built *The Lamp beside the golden door*, a gigantic installation at Coachella music festival.

French sculptor **Ugo Schildge** has taken over an antique gate that is stored in the garden and revisits it with concrete paintings. His abstract works are inspired by mechanics and movement.

Finally, Japanese artist **Takao Shiraishi** has made a wooden map of Pangea, the supercontinent that existed millions of years ago, before the continents we know today broke apart. This is part of a series of Pangea maps he staples wildly in the streets of cities around the globe.

About the curator: Marie Salomé Peyronnel is a French independent curator and writer based in Brooklyn. Last March she curated « Minus the sun » at SPRING/BREAK art show (New York). The group show was exploring how artists reveal themselves under cover of night. In 2016, Peyronnel curated the exhibition « Hypogea » featuring works by Radouan Zeghidour at the Catinca Tabacaru Gallery in New York as well as «Reproduction» at Spring/Break Art Show presenting 7 young French artists in different media including Elsa-Louise Manceaux, Radouan Zeghidour and Pauline Guerrier. She also presented the performance « Brick Bloom Catch » by painter Clara Claus at the Chimney in Bushwick in July 2016, with live music by Nikhil Shah, Joakim Bouaziz and Emilie Weibel. She is a curatorial resident at Residency Unlimited in Brooklyn. Her first book *Le Livre qui console* was published by Flammarion (France) in 2014.

When?

Opening reception: Wednesday, May 31 - 5-8PM

Exhibition dates: June 1 - June 12, 2017

Where?

Elizabeth Street Garden, Elizabeth Street between Prince st and Spring St, New York 10012
<https://www.elizabethstreetgarden.com>

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