

parlour

Object Not Found
February 25 - 26, 2012

The artists featured in Parlour No. 21, *Object Not Found*, all have art practices in which what matters to them is a conceptually-driven process—not a final object. But “Object Not Found” as a title is fitting for more than that reason alone. The phrase also happens to be an online error message, one that most people have come across when they have searched for a URL that no longer exists. To think about *not* ending up with an object as a glitch rings true when thinking about our consumerist society. However, these artists offer a variety of ways to find the validity in exactly that. They achieve this through the economy of exchange, a visual paradox, fragmentation of the self, an exploration and celebration of the missing, and a perpetually-moving environment. All of this to say that often it is more interesting when we don’t find what we were initially looking for.

Miryana Todorova, a Bulgarian artist who lives and works in New York, participates in the exhibition with one of her *Movables*. These wearable works—a combination of stretchy fabric and expandable plastic tubing—offer us the possibility to examine the politics of space and how we occupy it. They are Todorova’s way of empowering us to modify the relations between ourselves and those or that around us—to take charge of our surroundings, but also to emphasize our social connections and negotiations. Please note that the artist’s instructions for the piece can be found near the entrance and all viewers are invited to operate the *Movable*.

Nico Angiuli’s work, *Senza Titolo (Acquarello con cuffia)*—made especially for this exhibition—consists of two elements: a detailed watercolor and an audio track. These complementary pieces serve to explore the artistic life of Ruggero Romanelli, the host of the show, and have grown out of several intimate conversations between the two. The interior depicted in the watercolor, a space which approximates Ruggero to some extent, was captured by Angiuli over a series of consecutive visits, while the audio refers to the choices an artist has to make in his/her life—even if they mean an interlude in their artistic practice.

Nina Fiocco and Nicola Turrini’s have created a triptych of photographs for the show, entitled *Thee of an Infinite Amount of Attempts to Catch Sight of the Divine by Looking Directly at the Sun*, each an image of the sun in full force with its emanating rays. The artist duo is interested in the paradox of the action implicit in the title of the work. The sun, a metaphor for the sacred, the giver of light—and therefore of sight—can also be its taker: staring at the sun too long can of course cause irreparable damage to the viewer’s eyes, inducing temporal or even terminal blindness. Still, the artists invite us to look closer—to ask ourselves not only what we are looking at, but what we are looking for.

The video work by Mexican artist **Leo Marz** is part of a greater series, entitled *CHATS*—all of which are based on actual MSN conversations pirated in cybercafés by fellow artist José Jiménez Ortiz that are then recited by the artist’s family and close friends. It is Marz’s intent with these films to investigate how new media has permitted and perhaps even promoted our creation of fictional selves (as made manifest through the masked characters) and has also introduced a discontinuity that fragments quotidian life (as seen through his editing of text and image). The result of these two is a pervading sense of disquiet and of uncertainty—in the film as in life.

The piece by **Serena Vestrucci**, a monotype of a bird on rolled acetate, both is and isn't her work. It's called *Piccola opera barattabile con piccola opera* and is the second manifestation of a perpetual work exchange initiated by Vestrucci: the first happened between her and artist Gianni Moretti when she exchanged a work of hers for the work exhibited in this show, the second will be between Vestrucci and a yet-undetermined artist. With this project, Vestrucci creates an alternative art market, one based on reciprocation, communication, and temporality rather than possession and financial dealing.

Object Not Found is co-organized by Serena Maccianti and hosted by artist Ruggero Romanelli in Cannaregio, Venice. It opens Saturday, February 25, 2012 from 5 - 7 PM, and can be viewed on Sunday, February 26, 2012 from 12 - 4 PM by appointment only. For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Leslie or Ciara at parlourinfo@gmail.com or visit www.parlourdoor.com.

Parlour is a nomadic exhibition space, founded in 2008 by Leslie Rosa and Ciara Gilmartin, that presents weekend-long exhibitions in private homes. Its impetus is to showcase the work of contemporary artists in a unique and dynamic setting. Though initially based in New York City, Parlour has expanded its programming to include shows in different cities throughout the United States and around the world.