

DUTCH KILLS

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For Immediate Release

Exhibition Niki Kriese
Cast Shadows
Dates Saturday, July 11 – Sunday, August 2, 2009
Reception Saturday, July 11, 6 - 9 pm
9 pm Performance: Audra Wolowiec
9:30 pm Performance: Yuka Otani

New York, NY

Dutch Kills Gallery is pleased to present *Cast Shadows*, the first New York exhibition of Niki Kriese. The exhibition furthers the artist's interest in connection and memory, finding inspiration in what is not visible but sensed. Combining sculpture, painting and video, the artist highlights the unstable divide between the two- and three-dimensional, questioning the relationship between what is elusive and what is concrete. Imagery of hands speaks to the desire to touch and connect, while gloves suggest masking or covering while remaining faithful to the silhouette of the form. Kriese is interested in the concept of tracing as wrapping, as drawing, and as commemorating a moment. 'Trace' can also imply an invisible imprint left behind as evidence of an absence. The work in itself is often evidence of the process undertaken, a souvenir of the meaningful action.

Kriese graduated with her MFA from Rhode Island School of Design in 2007. She currently lives and works in New York.

Audra Wolowiec is a multi-disciplinary artist who lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. Her work is often performative in nature, using architecture and the body to explore various forms of communication and sensory reinterpretations of the everyday. She received an MFA in Sculpture from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2007 and a BFA in Textiles from the University of Michigan in 2002. Audra will present *Silence is a Language*, a set of performances based on scores that interpret how the mouth plays a roll in visual communication. Asking several participants to perform the same score, the voice will be used to punctuate the collective space of silence.

Yuka Otani is a multimedia artist who explores transparent materials, such as glass, water, and light. Intrigued by the 'slipperiness' of those materials, she creates installations and performances that address the dynamism of time and ever-shifting perceptions.

Dutch Kills Gallery is a new contemporary exhibition space situated in the rapidly evolving artistic hub of Long Island City. In addition to monthly exhibitions by gallery artists, programming features performances, screenings and other events. The gallery is located in the historic Silks Building, presently home to visual and performing artist spaces and small businesses.