

BRILLIANT
CHAMPIONS
GALLERY

small moments

Adam Frezza + Terri Chiao
Leif Low-Beer
Laura Moriarty
Brent Owens
Esther Ruiz
Paul Wackers

On view: Nov. 4 through Dec. 2, 2017

Brilliant Champions Gallery is thrilled to present "small moments" a group show featuring sculptures by Adam Frezza + Terri Chiao, Leif Low-Beer, Laura Moriarty, Brent Owens, Esther Ruiz and Paul Wackers. The shelf-sized sculptures harmonize in small groupings with a palpable tension between maximalism and minimalism, where passion and gut instinct meet precision and meditation. Opening November 4, 2017 and on view through December 2nd, 2017.

ADAM FREZZA + TERRI CHIAO

The ongoing series of papier-mâché plant forms, by Adam Frezza & Terri Chiao, also known as CHIAOZZA (rhymes with "wowza" or "yowza") are inspired by unusual and unique surfaces, they embrace vibrant color palettes, and surreal elements. The Cartoon Plant Sculptures are a series of objects imagined as 3-dimensional manifestations of imaginary plants within a non-existent two-dimensional cartoon landscape, like an illustration in the round. "With this series we are also nodding to Italian artist and theorist Leo Lionni and his notion of a Parallel Botany; that which exists yet cannot be seen. This series continues our exploration in giving a visual voice to imaginary substance."

LEIF LOW-BEER

The works of Leif Low-Beer are both abstract and familiar. The dynamically orchestrated arrangements in his sculptures have immense detail, playfulness and yet have a minimalist nature. "My work bears the marks of this narrative process, but the story remains open-ended and ambiguous, shifting through multiple frames and tellings. I'm interested in the idea that an installation, sculpture, or drawing can be a form of description – a way of telling stories that are familiar to us, but that cannot be expressed in words. My work explores the mute in-between of things: between known and unknown, sayable and unsayable, flat and dimensional. The independence of a small composition pulls against the order imposed by a larger environment – not entirely of it, but not fully apart from it either."

LAURA MORIARTY

Laura Moriarty makes process-driven sculptural paintings whose forms, colors, textures and patterns result from the same processes that shape and reshape the earth: heating and cooling, erosion, subduction, friction, enfolding, weathering, slippage. "Taking poetic license with geology, I compare processes of the studio with processes of the earth. Layers of color form the strata of a methodology in which the immediacy of the hand can translate a sense of deep time. Working and reworking molten, richly pigmented beeswax, I build my sculptural paintings through a slow, simple yet strenuous physical engagement, which often becomes a metaphor for the ephemerality of life and civilization."

BRENT OWENS

Dark humor plays an abiding and central role in the wooden sculptures of Brent Owens. Laboriously carved chunks of found stumps become domestic arrangements. The works examine our interactions with one another on personal and cultural levels alike, and our tenuous relationship with the natural world. "My work is a joke, a wad of jokes, a stream of them: clumsy jokes, flat-falling and deadpan. The jokes I make are labor intensive, but retain a sense of pathos that relies on exploiting and celebrating the chunky corporeality of the materials I work with."

ESTHER RUIZ

Esther Ruiz's series of small, perfectly assembled cement, paint, colored Plexiglas, and geode stone sculptures use a minimalist vocabulary to create relics of imagined experiences. With a background in neon making her process utilizing the combination of colors, textures and transparencies, create a stellar moment for the viewer. "The imagery I work with is born out of exploring and researching fictional places imagined in my mind...Ultimately, my work exists as an effort to visually explain an emotional state of mind with mathematical acuteness."

PAUL WACKERS

Seemingly plucked from one of his paintings, the ceramic objects of Paul Wackers, are beautifully created with instability, separation, and uncertainty. These thrown, molded and pinched together pieces of clay are unlike one another. The works mimic his paintings in that they are founded in space and time but manipulated to challenge both gravity and perspective. "Is it possible for that shape to exist in the world? Or is it just made up in the painting?"

Brilliant Champions Gallery celebrates "small moments" with an opening reception on November 4, 2017 from 6 - 9pm and is open to the public. The exhibition runs through December 2, 2017 with open hours **Thursday through Saturday from 11am to 5pm** and by appointment or chance. Visit us at **5 Central Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11206** or on the web at <http://www.brilliant.gallery>

For more information on "small moments" exhibition and the artists please contact Jillian Mackintosh, Gallery Director, at jillian@brilliantchampions.com.