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IN THE AIR

Art News & Gossip

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Anna K.E. Builds an Unfinished Swimming Pool at the Kitchen



“No entrance, no exit” opened at the Kitchen in Chelsea on January 13, and shows the works of three emerging artists — Anna K.E., Alina Tenser, and Viola Yesiltac — as they relate to performance. Among the trio, none practices performance art, yet their respective work in photography, video, and sculpture is invariably influenced by that discipline.

It’s telling that the Georgian-born, New York and Dusseldorf-based participant Anna K.E. studied ballet before turning to the visual arts. Gesture, so essential to dance, takes on a decidedly spatial quality in K.E.’s “Unfinished Smile,” built specifically for the Kitchen. The piece — a tile swimming pool perimeter that lacks the typical cement basin — performs itself (its image is digitally reproduced and projected in one-point perspective on the wall behind the object). Yet its empty cavity also invites human

<http://blogs.artinfo.com/artintheair/2015/01/16/anna-k-e-builds-an-unfinished-swimming-pool-at-the-kitchen/>

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gesture, and Anna K.E. was on hand to demonstrate how that works. She jumped inside the rectangular border and eventually took a seat on its pixelated surface to offer an explanation: “You have the feeling that it’s kind of an empty stage and nothing is really happening. This situation of waiting is what interests me.”

— *Anna Kats (@fortunaviriliis)*