

The Kitchen

THE KITCHEN PRESENTS “I COLLECT NEGLECTED VENOMS” BY SARA MAGENHEIMER, FEBRUARY 25 – MARCH 4, 2017

New York, NY, February 06, 2017 – The Kitchen is pleased to present Sara Magenheimer’s first institutional solo exhibition, “I Collect Neglected Venoms,” an installation in The Kitchen’s ground floor theater that runs February 25–March 4, with opening and closing performances on February 25 at 7pm and March 4 at 5pm. An opening reception will be held on February 25 from 6–8pm. “I Collect Neglected Venoms” is curated by Lumi Tan and Tim Griffin and marks Magenheimer’s most expansive work to date.

The installation centers around Magenheimer’s new video, *Best is Man’s Breath Quality*, in which an ancient jellyfish suggests how new positions can inform our capabilities to heal. The deep-ocean vantage point of the aquatic animal allows him to comment (through an authoritative voice-over) on a truer spectrum of human behavior seen up above, and illuminate the ways perceptual apparatuses, both inherent and constructed, shape human consciousness. His capacity for inflicting pain on human bodies finds parallels in humanity’s capacity to embody the more nebulous and unruly forces in life.

Playing with mood and atmosphere by engaging theatrical tools such as lighting and fog, the installation will additionally include a tank of GloFish®, fluorescent fish that have been genetically modified with jellyfish DNA, whose movements will be amplified and abstracted via a live-feed projection, mirrored sculptural elements, and a diffused custom oceanic scent. Each of these elements contributes to a multi-sensory experience, which echoes the themes of perception and physical manifestations of psychological states present in the video.

The two performances will feature singing and narration by Magenheimer, who will explore how language mutates and reproduces itself in culture. Creating abstract narratives through vernacular associations, she proposes linguistic turns more empathic than expository. Using one narrator for multiple voices, she explores how one person’s voice can give cohesion to thoughts that seem like non-sequiturs, and can deliver a collage of sound in a way that presents togetherness and unity while shedding light on the seemingly disparate, personal, and subjective vernacular. The human voice and sound operate as floating signifiers, addressing the body through the disembodied.

“I Collect Neglected Venoms” will be on view February 25–March 4 at The Kitchen (512 West 19th Street). Exhibition hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11am–6pm. An opening reception will take place on February 25 from 6–8pm. Performances will take place on February 25 at 7pm and March 5 at 5pm, and are first come, first served.

About Sara Magenheimer

Sara Magenheimer has had solo exhibitions at Art in General + Kim?, Riga, Latvia; COR&P, Columbus, Ohio; JOAN, Los Angeles; Recess, New York, Interstate Projects, Brooklyn, and DOCUMENT, Chicago. Her work has been exhibited in group exhibitions or screened at institutions such as The High Line, The New York Film Festival, Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Cave in Detroit, SiteWork in Chapel Hill, Portland’s MOMA, The Living Art Museum in Reykjavik, and Meet Factory in Prague, Czech Republic. She has performed at MOMA P.S.1, Issue Project Room, Canada Gallery, and the Performa 13 Biennial. She is a recipient of the Rema Hort Mann Foundation Emerging Artist Grant.

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About The Kitchen

The Kitchen is one of New York City's most forward-looking nonprofit spaces, showing innovative work by emerging and established artists across disciplines. Our programs range from dance, music, performance, and theater to video, film, and art, in addition to literary events, artists' talks, and lecture series. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country, and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

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