

Neither Here Nor There

Duration of the show: Nov 18th, 2016 – Jan 20th, 2017

Opening reception: Nov 18th, 2016

Featuring works by:

Anne Mourier, Fanny Allié, Jeanne verdoux, Julien Gardair,
Marilia Destot, Nicolas Touron, Shani Ha, Simon courchel

Curated by: Nicolas Touron / Fanny Allié

The exhibition *Neither Here Nor There* presents the works of eight artists who all share the same birthplace – France and who voluntarily migrated several years ago to New York City.

Not quite from one side or the other anymore, a nonnative constantly oscillates between two realities, fully belonging to none. Through mixed media, sculpture, photography and painting, the artists of *Neither Here Nor There* examine this state of being slightly “out of tune” and how their experience may have impacted their work over the years.

The exhibit also aims to highlight a common thread between all the works - a feeling of detachment of the human figure from its urban environment, within a context of personal narration and a touch of absurdity. The sense of isolation and fragmentation that can emanate from the works is nonetheless often counterbalanced with whimsicality and humor.

In her series **Gowanus Dance**, **Marilia Destot** isolates and places her model in a cinematic or sequence form, her photographic work focusing on the intimate writing of time and space intercrossed. Exploring the same medium, **Simon Courchel** creates in each of his photographs an urban choreography or performance thus referencing his background as a dancer; the figure being always insulated and centered within the frame. In **Anne Mourier's** small sculptures depicting domestic scenes, the figure is removed all together but constantly in mind, like a ghostly presence, only the habitat remains. **Nicolas Touron's** ceramic and video installation **Artificial Landscape** is a visual fable, existing as a landscape of absurdity in which a dead cicada found at the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens during his numerous explorations there, plays the main character. **Jeanne Verdoux's** prints show the human figure deprived from any context but in

constant motion, sometimes in the verge of falling, where ground and air merge into one dimension. **Fanny Allié's** characters, often placed on a white background are also removed from their habitat or environment; their urban feel come through nonetheless.

In his Artforum mashup series, **Julien Gardair** combines and cuts Artforum advertisement pages, revealing from these art magazines human silhouettes intermingling with animals, body and abstract elements and creating a chaotic mass. Lastly, in order to remedy the isolation she may find in fast-paced cities, **Shani Ha** creates versatile sculptures and devices in an effort to bring people together or to add a comforting touch to her surrounding.