



## *Wandering Archive*

Karla Marchesi | Clare Rae | Melanie Jayne Taylor

Beam Contemporary is excited to announce the gallery's participation in the 2013 SCOPE Miami art fair, as part of the SCOPE Breeder program, which introduces emerging galleries and artists to the global contemporary art market. Breeder galleries are selected by a rotating panel of independent curators for each edition of the SCOPE Art Show.

For its contribution to SCOPE Miami 2013, Beam Contemporary will present a curated group exhibition, *Wandering Archive*, which brings together work by three represented artists: Karla Marchesi, Clare Rae and Melanie Jayne Taylor. Each artist's work presented here engages with the concept of the archive in personal, and often playful, ways. Eschewing austerity and authority, these artists have produced idiosyncratic archives, or interactions with institutional archives, that emphasize the archive as a process, defined by transience, malleability and re-interpretation. This theme also reflects on the nature of the art object and the art fair itself.

Archives catalogue objects through which we both hold onto and re-construct the past. Necessarily, then, the works included in *Wandering Archive* also reflect on the condition of the art object. Artworks are precious objects to which we form indefinable attachments rooted in the minutiae of our daily lives and interactions, yet they also have lives delineated by institutional contexts and archival practices, of galleries, museums, and art fairs. Clare Rae's photographic prints, *Untitled* (glass plates) and *Untitled* (decanted rack), form part of a series of works contrast these lives of the artwork, documenting the artist's body, engaged in a series of oblique and unpredictable gestures, within the photographic archives of the National Gallery of Victoria. Rae's photographs capture a moment of a fleeting impromptu gesture, juxtaposed against the archive room designed to protect and maximise predictability. Rae's body is an interruptive presence within a precisely controlled and monitored space that attempts to ensure the images it contains remain fixed, unchanging, and predictable.

This curatorial thematic of *Wandering Archive* also responds to the condition of the international art fair, a space of dislocation, anchored by the objects it contains. A series of seven oil paintings by Karla Marchesi, from the series *Every Moment Lives Together*, are presented here and attempt to grapple with the dislocations typical of the global art world. Each painting depicts Marchesi's hanging bath towel, uniquely interpreting its textures and folds, on each successive day for a week. Here, a careless everyday moment, placing a bath towel on a rack, is rendered with care, scrupulously catalogued each day, and made permanent. The work, produced in the early months of Marchesi's relocation from Brisbane (Australia) to Berlin (Germany), captures both the beauty of the everyday, and also the way that we imbue the objects around us with significance. This series of paintings, a makeshift archive of a small detail in a new context, emphasises a single moment's continuity with, and subtle differences from, every other day and every other place. Objects, here, are able to both anchor us and set us adrift.

Melanie Jayne Taylor's practice is as much concerned with the continued processes of interpreting her personal archive of images, as it is concerned with generating new images. Images are carefully arranged within the gallery, or in the case of *Coastal Fragments*, to be exhibited here, within the space of a single print. In Taylor's practice, images are never fixed, but instead, through a dynamic concept of the archive, become subject to constant re-interpretation and reconfiguration.

For press quality images and all other enquiries please contact Simone Hine:  
simone@beamcontemporary.com | +61 423 100 755

