

# EXPO CHICAGO 2017

Gallery booth 613 | Profile booth 821 Sep 13 – 17, 2017

GRIMM is pleased to return to EXPO Chicago with two presentations. In the main gallery booth we will exhibit a curated group show highlighting a selection of artists from our program, and for the fair's Profile section a solo presentation by Charles Avery will be exhibited.

Since 2005 Charles Avery (UK, 1973) has been describing a fictional Island in his drawings, texts, and objects. The Island is located at the centre of an archipelago of innumerable constituents. The gateway to the Island is the town of Onomatopoeia, once the arrival point of the pioneers who first came to discover the place, turned colonial outpost, turned boom town, bustling metropolis, depression ravaged slum, and regenerated city of culture and tourist destination. For EXPO Chicago's Profile section which runs simultaneously with the Chicago Architecture Biennial, Avery presents a series of new architectural drawings and models of buildings for The Island.

In the main gallery booth, we will present three video works by Ger van Elk (NL, 1941-2014). Van Elk's often rebellious as well as witty and playful expressions, rests on the premise that art is simultaneously a real and fictional construct. "What I want is a realistic representation of non-realistic situations," Van Elk once said. This tension between reality and imagination, between presence and absence, is one of the leitmotifs behind Van Elk's works. Constantly seeking for new applications to reinvent the media worked with, Van Elk was one of the pioneering artists using video. GRIMM will present three animated works that are innovative for the digital manipulation of the video image and for their picture-frame presentation.

Nick van Woert's (US, 1979) practice is rooted in his architectural background and reflects on modern day society, technology and progress. Van Woert works with contemporary materials that are ubiquitous in the environment around us, investigating the extreme polarity materials can traverse. Fascinated by the material language of art and what things consist of, he dismantles and strips down objects to examine what remains. At the fair we will exhibit *They Lived Outside*. Its title a direct reference to Henry Thoreau and others who propagandized a return to nature and who have influenced Van Woert's ideas about reclaiming both our natural environments with a do-it-yourself mentality. Nick van Woert also shows at EXPO Sound and his solo exhibition *DIRTNAP* is opening at Patron Gallery on Friday 15 September at 6 pm.

Matthew Day Jackson (US, 1974) exhibits *Destroyed by Fire (Painter on His Way to Work)* (2017). The work is a direct reference to one of six paintings by Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890) that are classified as either missing or destroyed. *Painter on His Way to Work* by Van Gogh was painted in 1888 in Arles, France, and has been lost since WW II. *Destroyed by Fire (Painter on His Way to Work)*, is the second work in a series that uses iconic lost artworks to reflect on 'horrible' events that make up our recent history; according to the artist everything we do has the potential to create both horror and beauty, and the artist investigates the consequences of both nuclear and technological advancement and its impact on society with these works.

Lucy Skaer (UK, 1975) is a multidisciplinary artist who makes sculptures, films and drawings mainly based on photographs sourced from newspapers and books as well as pictures taken from the Internet. Often assembling various source materials and presenting them as installations, her work deals with the meaning of reproduction and the influence of mass media. The transformation of her found material into pictures and objects is an elaborate, often manual process involving the collaboration of craftsmen. What results is a push and pull between representation and the still recognizable meaning and physical shape of the original subject matter.

Daniel G. Baird (US, 1984) presents new sculptures that are a continuation of a series of work currently on view as part of his solo exhibition at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum. His work is a layered examination of the place mankind occupies within the inevitable passage of time. Baird is interested in the traces that symbolize our relationship to time and progress.

Caroline Walker (UK, 1982) explores femininity in our modern, image-conscious age. Whether in the private interior of a minimalist home in California, or the more public space of a nail salon in London, she imbues her works with a voyeuristic perspective and a quiet tension that is sometimes social, sometimes psychological. Walker's paintings set themselves apart through exquisite paint handling and technical virtuosity.

William Monk's (UK, 1977) scenographic works tap into the rich tradition of painting. Monk paints enigmatic and vibrant works, using starkly divisional compositions. He investigates the application of various techniques and combines them on one canvas. His brushstrokes reminisce the style of 'Les Nabis', Pointillism and Symbolism. Monk often works in extensive series that gradually evolve over time. The canvases carry irregular intensities of detail, line, foreground and background, with are large abstracted color fields with only hints of figuration left on the surface.

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