

Kristen Cochran, Travis Iurato, Leslie Martinez

Material Intension

On view April 6 - 20 | Wednesday - Saturday 12 - 6 pm and by appointment

Sneak Preview | Friday, April 5 | 5 - 9 pm

Opening Reception and Cookout with Sweet Pass Sculpture Park | Saturday, April 6 | 6 - 9 pm

ex ovo is pleased to announce *Material Intension*, an exhibition of recent multidisciplinary work by Dallas-based artists Kristen Cochran, Travis Iurato, and Leslie Martinez. Though these artists are concerned with vastly different lines of inquiry, the resonances between their modes of working and the formal results of those processes are striking. Their shared vocabulary of actions includes, but is in no way limited to: cutting, soaking, dyeing, folding, eviscerating, accumulating, cracking, disassembling, reassembling, stretching, piercing, hardening, pulping, defamiliarizing, sewing, crumpling, dissociating, layering, molding, kneading, and hanging. The “how,” “why,” and “to what end” is, of course, idiosyncratic to each artist. In the fields of linguistics and logic, intension refers to the internal content of a concept—any property or quality evoked by a word or phrase. In the context of this exhibition it suggests the range of associations that a material or action might contain. Put another way, intension expands the field; it allows for multiplicities of meaning, and the coexistence of contradictions, at once harmonious and discordant.

The exhibition includes both large and small-scale works that share concerns of disassembly and reassembly, an emphasis on materiality, a profound sense of resourcefulness, and an interest in dimensional ambiguity.

Originally from the Pacific Northwest, **Kristen Cochran** moved to Dallas to complete her MFA at The Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University in 2010. She has exhibited her work locally, nationally and internationally. She has taught widely at universities and museums in the DFW area, and currently teaches sculpture at TCU. Recent exhibitions include ‘*Architectures of Aspiration (r.i.p.)*’ at Liliana Bloch Gallery, ‘The LINE’ at Site 131 and ‘Fold In’ at Lawndale Arts Center in Houston.

Travis Iurato was born in Tucson, AZ and raised in northern New Jersey. He received his undergraduate degree from The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Art and Science in New York City in 2009, and is currently a first-year MFA student at The Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University. In 2014, he left New York City for rural Arizona to study Indigenous Southwest rock art. During this period, he co-founded New Age Drinks, a roving gallery and residency program. He has exhibited work since 2002, most recently in ‘Rising Star 6’ at the Turner House in Dallas, the Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff Modern and Contemporary, #FFFHEX in Mathews, Virginia, and Vicki Projects in Newburgh, NY.

Leslie Martinez is a multidisciplinary artist born and raised between The Rio Grande Valley of the Texas-Mexican border and Dallas, Texas. They received an MFA from Yale University School of Art in New Haven, Connecticut this past May, and a BFA from The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in New York City, in 2008. Recent group shows include ‘Better Pleasures’, at Knockdown Center in Queens, New York, ‘Independence’ at The McKinney Avenue Contemporary in Dallas, Texas, ‘Heads/Tails’ at Next to Nothing Gallery in New York City, ‘Way Out Now’ at Diane Rosenstein Gallery in Los Angeles, California, ‘Kaleidoscope’ at Kravetz | Wehby Gallery in New York City. The work included in *Material Intension* was completed during a residency at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tucson in early 2019.

This is the first exhibition presented at ex ovo, a project space and gallery organized by Allison Klion. It will open officially this summer.



DETAILS OF WORK BY LESLIE MARTINEZ, TRAVIS IURATO, AND KRISTEN COCHRAN, ALL 2019.