

## **BODEGA**

*like flex / like flex*

Emily Rooney, Strauss Bourque-LaFrance

September 3 - 26

Opening September 3, 6 pm - 9 pm

From September 3 - 26, Bodega is pleased to present *like flex / like flex*, a collaborative exhibition of material works by Emily Rooney and Strauss Bourque-LaFrance.

Like an inversion of the body, a palindrome, or a triangle, the tension an object holds comes from its positioning – its adjacency to like-forms or anti-forms. The gesture of the flex is contingent upon an articulation of a multitude of parts, working in a single motion to appear poised, tense, controlled, open.

A twist of the kaleidoscope; two hands wringing out a wet washcloth.

As basic as our body's fundamental movements, *like flex / like flex's* formal, post-minimal investigation of queer and post-identity visuality asserts no hierarchy between a minimal object and an object imbued with content. The dialogue between the two classes of objects illuminates the phenomenological and physical possibilities that lie within these conflicted formal tropes.

The terse harmony of the exhibition rests in the controlled scatter of sculptural material, unbound by a discourse that seeks recognition from distinctions of gender and sexuality. This queered formalism is thus born from the confluence of techniques that confront the ways in which they themselves have been romanticized, mythicized or normalized.

Strauss Bourque-LaFrance received his BA from Hampshire College in 2006, MFA from Tyler School of Art in 2010, and recently returned from the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Skowhegan Maine. His work has been included in exhibitions at Vox Populi, Philadelphia, the Sculpture Center in New York and throughout Massachusetts. Emily Rooney received her BA from Hampshire College in 2005 and is currently pursuing her MFA at Tyler School of Art. Her work has been exhibited in group shows at the Work Gallery in New York, in Philadelphia, and around the Northeast.

For more information please contact Bodega.

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