

OVERDUIN & CO.

PRESS RELEASE

Ei Arakawa and Sarah Chow
“VERTEX af (how to puncture?)”
October 23rd – November 21st, 2018
Reception: Tuesday, October 23rd, 6 to 8pm

Overduin & Co. is pleased to present an exhibition by Ei Arakawa and Sarah Chow with a performance by VERTEX af.

The exhibition corresponds with the dates of the star sign Scorpio and with this collaboration, Arakawa and Chow have formed a collective focused on examining the structures of contemporary astrological analysis. Utilizing astrology to study relationships between people, places, events and artworks, VERTEX af examines systems of influence outlined in astrological philosophy. The work details ideas of collective influence and the notion of fate versus free will or self-determination. Horoscopy is posed as an alternative system of knowledge, producing systems of data that can be used to inform our actions and relationships. While the zodiac can be employed as a tool for intuitive self-empowerment, a more mainstream concept of astrology (like daily horoscopes, and pop cultural sun-sign interpretations) can also act as an almost oppressive force that dictates the events of our life.

The exhibition presents a set of hinged and sliding large paper screens which display complex personal cosmologies outlining potential celestial forces at work in the lives of both Arakawa and Chow. The sliding screens mimic the left and right swipes of touch screen applications. During the performance, visitors wore badges indicating their sun and moon signs. In a Gutai like gesture, temporary collectives punctured the screen using constellations constructed from resin and metal. A 2 channel video by Chow runs a loop of swirling text which uses an algorithm to follow a cursor around the projected field. LED paintings by Arakawa display images of asteroids and a larger LED work cycles through the lunar phases while a musical track is played featuring an anti-anxiety cleanse composition.

Ei Arakawa (b. Fukushim, Japan 1977) is a performance artist based in New York since 1998. His performances are created through collaborations with various people including contemporary artists, musicians, and art historians. The means of these collaborations are diverse, with individuals physically participating as performers, and in other instances their works themselves functioning as performers. Arakawa often invites the audience to participate in an improvisational manner in his work and he has established the act of such collaborations with other artists and the audience as his very practice. Arakawa's selected performances and exhibitions include, Kunstverein Dusseldorf, Sculpture Project Münster, Museum Ludwig in Cologne, The 9th Berlin Biennale, Museum Brandhorst in Munich, The Gwangju Biennial, the Whitney Biennial in New York, the Carnegie International in Pittsburgh, Pavilion of Georgia at the 55th International Art Exhibition, la Biennale di Venezia, Tate Modern in London, 30th São Paulo Biennial, and The Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Sarah Chow (b. Los Angeles, CA 1988) is an artist based in New York. Chow's work focuses on sculpture and video derived from digital language structures. Her work has been included in exhibitions at the Kunstverein Dusseldorf, Rupert in Vilnius, the Liverpool Biennial, the Manila Institute in New York, Real Fine Arts in New York, and Iko Iko in Los Angeles. Chow has participated in performances with Ei Arakawa and Chrisitan Naujoks at the Kunstverein Dusseldorf, CFGNY at MoMA PS1 in New York, and Amanda Friedman at Essex Street Flowers. Chow studied at New York University and received her graduate degree from Bard College in New York.

For more information and images, please contact the gallery at office@overduinandco.com. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10am to 5pm or by appointment.