

HOLLAND TUNNEL GALLERY

Terra/Derma

46 Chambers St, Newburgh NY
October 17 - November 22, 2020
Opening October 17, 5-7pm

Terra/Derma at Holland Tunnel in Newburgh, NY features the work of Marieken Cochius, Kent Peterson and Romina Gonzales. The work explores the ways in which natural and man-made forces are at work changing the surface of the earth in both subtle and dramatic ways. Cochius' mixed-media collages Elements of the Motherboard include a variety of natural materials and the paintings from her Currents and Shadows series contain thick layers of oil paint shaped by hand. The cracked surfaces of Peterson's Strata paintings are made by painting over tar, reminiscing geological structures that have been eroded over time. Gonzales' series of sculptures titled Finding the Window are life-size masses of formerly molten, pulled glass that record a material response. An important connection between the artists is an awareness of the tension between what is present and what cannot be touched or seen.

Cochius' work is the result of close observations of organic structures, ecosystems and an interest in patterns in nature. Capturing the movement of light, wind and water to show how natural forms change over time, her work addresses the destruction of the environment as man-made systems collapse and damage the world around them. Peterson is interested in transformation and entropy in relation to geologic and biologic processes. His work feels solid and grounded, yet also ethereal and diaphanous. Representing an event or a moment in time, Gonzales' dynamic work captures the gestural synchronicity of joint forces, the communion of polarity. Terra/Derma refers to the earth and its skin or surface; the place where inside and outside meet.

Marieken Cochius is a Dutch-born artist whose work is meditative and intuitive and often explores growth forms, movement of light and wind, root systems, and animal architecture. Exhibitions include the Alexey von Schlippe Gallery at UConn Avery Point, CT; the Attleboro Museum, MA; Foundry Art Centre, St Charles, MO; Woodstock Artist Association and Museum, Woodstock, NY; Roxbury Arts Center, NY; The Ely Center, New Haven, CT and Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY. Commissions include a public sculpture for the Village of Wap-

pingers Falls, NY with a grant from the Hudson River Foundation. She is a 2020 recipient of a Foundation for Contemporary Arts (FCA) and the Marjorie Curit award winner for Contemporary and Non Traditional art. Cochius studied photography at the Art Academy St Joost in Breda, the Netherlands. She currently lives in the Hudson Valley, New York.

Born in Elgin, Illinois in 1953, Kent Peterson attended Illinois Wesleyan University where he received a BFA degree in art in 1975. Ever fascinated by the nature and interaction of materials coupled with a longstanding interest in geology, Peterson began a series of paintings in the eighties using tar, a material with which he still works today. The tar serves as an undersurface which is then painted over rendering the paint as a sort of skin when melding with the tar. Often done in multiple layers, the inspiration for this work comes in part from observing earth strata and the underlying factors that affect the surface. This is a theme which Peterson has explored in various means for over thirty years.

From creating interactive sulfur sculptures to manipulating molten glass, Romina Gonzales' practice lies within facilitating the expansion of consciousness from a post-colonial lens. Her interdisciplinary work moves seamlessly between sculpture, painting, printmaking and performance— often portraying gestures through material responses. Born in Lima, Peru in 1989 and based in New York for the past 10 years, she works towards mindfulness, healing and social justice by questioning givens and offering alternative perspectives. Exhibitions include Vitraria Museum in Venice, Italy; Memorial Sloan Kettering Infusion Center and the Agnes Varis Art Center in Brooklyn; Fort Makers and NSG Gallery in New York City. Collections include the Museum of American Glass and the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum in New York. Gonzales graduated from New York University after previously attending Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú.

Gallery Hours Sat/Sun: 1-5pm and by appointment.
Masks required and social distancing observed.