

An abstract artwork by Katy Cowan titled 'glow like stone'. The piece features a complex, layered composition of colors and textures. Dominant colors include deep reds, purples, blues, and pinks, set against a dark, charcoal grey background. The texture is highly varied, with areas of fine, stippled detail and larger, more expressive brushstrokes. The overall effect is one of depth and luminosity, as if light is reflecting off different surfaces within the composition.

Katy Cowan
glow like stone
June 8 - June 22, 2022

Philip Martin Gallery

2712 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90034
(310) 559-0100 www.philipmartingallery.com

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Philip Martin Gallery is pleased to present, "glow like stone," an on-line exhibition of new works-on-paper by Berlin-based artist Katy Cowan.

Moving from Berkeley to Berlin placed Cowan in new surroundings: flowering willow trees seemingly as large as mountains; dazzling reflections across the surfaces of the ponds in the parks; brooding stone sculptures, scattered throughout the city, well worn from years of human touch and exposure to the elements.

Katy Cowan asks, "How can one combine a multitude of experiences on onto one surface and find a way to seize that depiction?" She applies spray paint, oil paint, watercolor, colored inks, and graphite in base layers to paper. Cowan then rubs the surface of the paper with graphite, revealing its texture: "forms emerge, directions shift, shapes call out."

Many of Cowan's recent works were California seascapes painted with the feeling of the setting sun. "sun chases the unfurling fray" - Cowan's recent solo exhibition at Philip Martin Gallery - conjured kelp and seaweed, ripples and riptides, the light over the ocean viewed through the mist of a crashing wave. The Berlin works are made in a new place. We see candle-light, history, human presence.

The city "glows like stone." Cowan's works-on-paper channel this feeling. They invite us to experience it for ourselves.

Katy Cowan (b. 1982, Lake Geneva, WI) received her BFA from University of Puget Sound (Puget Sound, WA) in 2004; and her MFA from Otis College of Art and Design (Los Angeles, CA) in 2014. In 2023, Cowan's work will be the subject of a solo exhibition at Miles McEnery Gallery (New York, NY). Recent exhibitions include "Lines of Thought: Gestural Abstraction," Berkeley Museum of Art and Pacific Film Archive (Berkeley, CA); "Selections from the Permanent Collection," Milwaukee Art Museum (Milwaukee, WI); "From the Collection of Anonymous," North Dakota Museum of Art (Grand Fork, ND); and "as the sun chases the unfurling fray," Philip Martin Gallery (Los Angeles, CA). Cowan's work has been the subject of solo and group institutional exhibitions at Otis College of Art and Design (Los Angeles, CA); University of Puget Sound (Tacoma, WA); Lynden Sculpture Garden (Milwaukee, WI); Madison Museum of Contemporary Art (Madison, WI); Synchrotron Radiation Center (Stoughton, WI); Poor Farm (Manawa, WI); and solo gallery exhibitions at The Green Gallery (Milwaukee, WI); Document (Chicago, IL); Kate Werble Gallery (New York, NY); Fourteen30 Contemporary (Portland, OR). Cowan's work is in public and private collections such as Art, Design & Architecture Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara (Santa Barbara, CA); (Milwaukee Museum of Art (Milwaukee, WI); Minneapolis Museum of Art (Minneapolis, MN); North Dakota Museum of Art (Grand Fork, ND); Lynden Sculpture Garden (Milwaukee, WI); Art in Embassies (Maputo, Mozambique); and Northwestern Mutual Insurance (Milwaukee, WI). Her work has been reviewed in Artforum, Los Angeles Times, Architectural Digest, Wallpaper*, Contemporary Art Review LA, Artnet and other publications. Cowan lives and works in Berlin, Germany.

Philip Martin Gallery is open Tuesday - Saturday from 10-5. For additional images, or information please email info@philipmartingallery.com, or call 310-559-0100. Philip Martin Gallery is located at 2712 S. La Cienega Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90034 in the Culver City area of Los Angeles between Venice Blvd. and Washington Blvd., just south of the 10 Freeway.



Katy Cowan
"both by candle," 2022
Graphite, oil and enamel paint, colored ink on paper, unframed
27 1/2 x 20 1/2 inches