

Philip Martin Gallery

Katy Cowan
On Ropes and Bronze...

June 24 – August 19, 2017



Cherry and Martin is pleased to present Los Angeles-based artist Katy Cowan's third solo exhibition at the gallery. Her show, "On Ropes and Bronze..," will feature new sculptures, drawings and wall works in a range of mediums, including bronze, fibers and ceramic.

Katy Cowan's recent body of work investigates the terms of the art object, the identity of the maker and the site of making itself. Much of the work in Cowan's recent show was made in Milwaukee, where she recently spent several years. The pieces in Cowan's show are formed in part by the legacy of human experience and the traces left by such experience; her objects suggest the presence of objects and ideas as both physical and metaphorical impressions.

Commenting on her show title and materials in this exhibition, Cowan has written: "My frustrations with bronze are that it is still stagnant and precious in its presentation. I wanted the opposite approach and I think I achieved that. My other challenge was to approach ropes in a new way; not as a tool to dangle, suspend, or strangle subject matter (as I've done in the past), but to approach ropes as if I were creating minimal line drawings. I wanted to simplify the rope and allow these bronze rope lengths to encapsulate areas of raw bronze for me to paint. Also, the decision to echo fabric and bronze ropes has a material conversation that I have long been interested in of weight and levity, humor and sadness, beauty and utility. This flipping permits those conversations to hopefully arise."

In addition to her exhibition at Cherry and Martin, Cowan's work is the subject of a concurrent solo exhibition and catalog, "Reflected-Into-Themselves-Into-Reflected" at the Lynden Sculpture Garden (Milwaukee, WI). Cowan's work has been the subject of solo and group exhibitions at Kate Werble Gallery (New York, NY); Fourteen30 Contemporary (Portland, OR); Poor Farm (Manawa, WI); and Green Gallery (Oak Park, IL). Cowan's work was recently acquired by the Minneapolis Museum of Art.

Philip Martin Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11am-6pm and by appointment. For further information and images please contact the gallery at +310-559-0100 or info@philipmartingallery.com.

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