

• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE •

Regan Rosburg: *Maelstrom*

Tobias Fike: *For what you have tamed*

June 21 – July 20, 2013

Opening Reception: Friday, June 21, 7 - 9 pm
Free and open to the public. / Artists in Attendance.

Regan Rosburg: Maelstrom

Regan Rosburg's exhibition of gorgeous new works, titled *Maelstrom*, features Rosburg's signature multimedia and painted compositions, suspended in thin layers of clear resin, with a medley of sea life and birds interacting amidst abstracted planes and among signs of perceived human comforts, such as sheltering walls or a soft bed. Rosburg completed this body of work in response to the Pacific trash vortex located in the North Pacific Gyre. In Rosburg's own words:

Over the years I have harbored a conflicted relationship with my medium, which is polymer resin, known simply to most by its common name, plastic. The luminescent properties of polymer resin give me the ability to preserve and suspend objects in time. Using bones, lace, animals, and insects, and my own hand-painted images, I strive to capture the beauty of nature in this material. Now, as I have become more and more aware of the detriment plastic has caused to our environment, the material itself has become the focus of my work.

With *Maelstrom*, Rosburg's finely tuned narratives are set in spaces created by humans to be a secure and comforting habitat. Just as human spaces decay when abandoned, here Rosburg questions the possibility for comfort or stability, when the ecological challenges presented to humanity are so very vast, and the global commitment to preserving natural spaces across the world and in the oceans seems disappointingly low. As she explores these themes, Rosburg does maintain a level of optimism, with works such as *The Nursery* and *The Ballet*, which hint at the potential for new life if it is protected, or the possibility for transcendence; these works suggest there is hope after all. Please visit the exhibition page of our website for more information about *Maelstrom* and these incredible works.



Regan Rosburg. *Interlocutor*, 2013, Acrylic, wood, plastic bags, resin, oil paint, lace, mylar, seashells, found construction mesh, wire, trash, 25 x 30 x 2 1/2 in. (63.5 x 76.2 x 6.4 cm)

Tobias Fike: For what you have tamed



Tobias Fike. *(In)finite* (still), 2013, single channel video. Element from *For what you have tamed* (2013)

In the gallery project room Tobias Fike's installation, titled *For what you have tamed*, features a series of images and objects, with which Fike investigates his recent entry to fatherhood. The myriad components of this work explore concepts such as Fike's own point of view as a child and eventual growth to adulthood, as well as the growth of the universe, and universal behaviors such as the sucking reflex, in addition to the power of likeness, and Fike's struggle to convey the ecstatic joy of the birth of his daughter to others.

The multimedia installation comprises new and older elements, which Fike has created and curated as he considers the impact of fatherhood and his conception of it prior to and after attaining this status. Titled after a passage in Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's classic translated work, *Le Petit Prince*, *For what you have tamed* includes painted and photographic works, video, a projection-based sculpture, as well as neon, and hard candy Fike developed for this exhibition.

For what you have tamed invites the viewer on a journey with Fike, as he explores this exceedingly personal change in identity in a broad, observational way. Each section of the installation provides a rational, yet simple and sense-oriented approach to complex questions of self, time, and our progeny—arguably an individual's only opportunity for measurable impact on the universe.

About Regan Rosburg

Regan Rosburg is an artist who lives and works in Denver, Colorado. With a resin process she has developed over the last ten years, Rosburg's works are populated by natural imagery and simple, telling narratives driven by composition through a combination of painted components, embedded collage, and suspended natural elements, including the skeletons and remains of natural creatures such as insects and birds. Most of the natural materials and specimens she employs in her work have been collected by Rosburg personally or crowd-sourced by her over the internet. Rosburg keeps and catalogues the natural materials she collects over time, with her studio functioning as part biological taxonomy, part kunst-kammer.

About Tobias Fike

Tobias Fike is an interdisciplinary, contemporary artist who lives and works outside of Denver, Colorado. The form of his work is incredibly varied and he approaches a range of concepts, from his personal experiences of family, place, and grief, to our temporal relationship with the universe and observations of time. Fike was born in Lincoln, Nebraska, moved to Kansas City when he was ten, then later returned to Lincoln to attend the University of Nebraska, where he earned a BFA in 2000. He earned his MFA from the University of Colorado Boulder in 2011. In addition to national tours showcasing his rich performance and collaboration-based projects, Fike's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, with exhibitions in cities Berlin, Germany; Coimbra, Portugal; Houston, TX; and Tucson, AZ, among others.

About David B. Smith Gallery

David B. Smith Gallery is Denver's venue for compelling contemporary art. Since its founding in 2007, the gallery has been committed to presenting intelligent and culturally relevant exhibitions featuring work from some of today's most dynamic artists with growing international reputations. Through extensive media coverage and participation in leading art fairs, David Smith has cultivated a strong regional, national and international collector audience. *The New York Times* hailed the gallery as offering, "an exciting contrast of cutting edge works." In addition to its curatorial program, David B. Smith maintains an active publishing division, which produces limited edition artist prints and monographs.