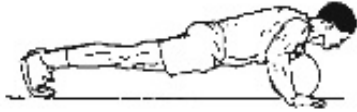


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E8: Sculpture



Oreen Cohen: *Running Drill*, July 7 – July 16, 2011
Opening Reception: Thursday, July 7th, 6-8pm

Lindsay Rowinski: *Trying to be There*, July 21 – July 30, 2011
Open Reception: Thursday, July 21st, 6-8pm

Sean Lundgren: *Nave*, August 4 – August 13, 2011
Opening Reception: Thursday, August 4th, 6-8pm

Transformer is proud to present the 8th year of our *Exercises for Emerging Artists* program with *E8: Sculpture*, featuring three individual exhibitions of site-specific installation work by emerging sculptors: **Oreen Cohen**, **Sean Lundgren** and **Lindsay Rowinski**, marking each of the artists' first DC solo exhibitions.

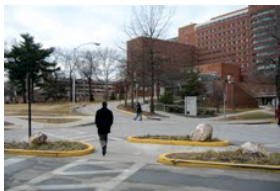
Launched at Transformer in March 2004, the *Exercises For Emerging Artists* was created to support artists at critical points or crossroads in their professional growth and development, and to advance participating artists' creative careers. Consisting of a series of intensive bi-weekly gatherings spanning three months, the program is designed to stimulate and encourage participating artists via peer and mentor critique as they create new work.

E8: Sculpture Guest Facilitator and DC based artist Joe Hicks says about the Exercises: "I was greatly enthused to work with Transformer; during my experience I learned the importance of place and how place can affect our creative process. Though these artists developed individual works and ideas, I was surprised to discover how interlaced all of their concepts actually are and how they reference the persistent demolition and construction in the DC area, suggesting profound influence from our local environment. When you visit these three solo exhibitions, you will notice underlining themes that revolve around place, experience, and material." In addition to peer critique sessions, the participating artists received mentorship and critical feedback on their work from guest artist facilitator **Joe Hicks**, and visiting artist mentors: **Kyan Bishop**, **Mary Early**, **Laurel Lukaszewski**, and **Ledelle Moe**.



Oreen Cohen's installation *Running Drill* is inspired by her personal connection to Israel and the constant upheaval of its land, coupled with visits to the grounds of Bull Run in Virginia, whose soil is similarly saturated with struggle. Cohen states: "The Israeli territorial crisis runs into antiquity yet its subterranean scars do not show; Bull Run's terrain tracks back to the Civil War. Through the extending forms of construction equipment, *Running Drill* tries to exhume layers that have been long denied their history and essence, having been constantly reclaimed and rebuilt. *Running Drill* is not asking to revive what has past, but rather to accept the concealed and bring it forth as reliquaries of historical residue that make up the weight and the energy of revered spaces."

Image Credit: Oreen Cohen, *Running Drill*, photo collage sketch, 2011



Lindsay Rowinski confronts the ambiguity of everyday objects relative to their function and environment. Her work treads the fine line between relevance and ephemeral. It encourages viewers to confront and question their purpose.

Lindsay asks/states: "If sculpture informs us about intention, corporeality, and societal influence, how then do objects in the world inform us on a daily basis? Because public space is imbued with creative intention; the objects placed within it are suggestions of how to behave or function. My aim is to bring the unnoticed, abstracted information inherent in public space and objects to the forefront of human perspective, to reclaim these situations as an art experience."

Image Credit: Lindsay Rowinski, *three median curbs*, archival inkjet print, 16 X 24 inches, 2011

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Sean Lundgren's recent work has grown out of systems of tension. Weights in suspension, whose supports form a kind of line drawing, create a scene that questions aspects of our lives; aspects that can create tension in our selves. Creating work for *E8: Sculpture* that is much lighter in weight than his usual work, Lundgren shares first impressions of Transformer's space, stating: "My first reaction to the Transformer space was how vertical it is. I found my gaze constantly drifting upward and was reminded of how cathedrals are designed to direct the viewer's gaze to the heavens. Cathedral architecture then became a jumping off point to explore lines in space. I settled on using mason line to map out the curves of the arches because I liked the idea of using a light weight material to represent something that, though built with stone, was designed to have an airy feeling."

Image Credit: Sean Lundgren, detail of *Nave*, mason line, wood, hardware, dimensions variable, 2011.

E8: Sculpture EXHIBITION HOURS:

Each of the three *E8: Sculpture* solo exhibitions are open to the public for seven days each. Launching with a Thursday evening opening reception, public hours are offered from 1-7pm the following Friday & Saturday, and then the following week, Wednesday - Saturday, 1-7pm & by appointment.

E8: Sculpture and *The Exercises for Emerging Artists* program are generously supported by The Robert Lehman Foundation.

Image credit: Exercises for Emerging Artists *Exercises Man* logo, Nick Pimentel

t r a n s f o r m e r is a Washington, DC based 501 (c) 3 artist-centered non-profit visual arts organization, providing a consistent, supportive, and professional platform for emerging artists to explore and present experimental artistic concepts, build audiences for their work, and advance their careers. A catalyst and advocate for contemporary artists and emergent expression in the visual arts, Transformer connects and promotes emerging visual artists within regional, national and international contexts through exhibition and programs partnerships with artists, curators, commercial galleries, museums and other cultural institutions.

Transformer's 2011/2012 exhibition series and programs are supported by: The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The CrossCurrents Foundation, The Robert Lehman Foundation, The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities/NEA, The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts' *Access to Artistic Excellence* award, and The Visionary Friends of Transformer.