

JOHANSSON /PROJECTS/

Rachelle Bussières | Artist Statement

I employ photographic materials and processes to explore our relationship to light and its impact on our psyche, environment and social structures. I make multiple exposures on gelatin silver paper using household objects arranged to protect, diffuse and control light in various manners. The outcomes of this lumen process include photograms that become windows and interior spaces that receive and are depleted by sunlight as well as artificial light such as flashes, light bulbs and ceiling fixtures. A dialogue is facilitated between the transformations of paper through natural and superficial light and the nature of the materials that go through the layered and timed exposures. Minimal atmospheric photograms are made with manmade objects such as lamp shades, curtains and boards. The pastel hues of the gelatin silver paper are affected by variables including duration of exposure, the type of light to which it is exposed and the nature of the materials used. Existing at the intersection of photography and sculpture, my work addresses the limits of seeing and knowing through the fabrication of photographic exposures, investigating our wider human experience with material culture, perception and time.

Rachelle Bussières | Artist Biography

Rachelle Bussières (Quebec City, Canada) received her MFA from San Francisco Art Institute in 2015. She lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Addressing the impact of light on our psyche, environment and social structure, Rachelle Bussières' work is at the intersection of photography and sculpture, moving through a collision of materials and documents through the lumen photographic process. Bussières is the recipient of the Penumbra Workspace Award from Penumbra Foundation and the Award for Excellence from the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation. She has had recent solo exhibitions at Penumbra Foundation (NYC, USA), Johansson Projects (Oakland, USA) and Robert Koch Gallery (San Francisco, USA). Some recent group shows include Seattle Pacific University (Seattle, WA), Tiger Strikes Asteroid (Brooklyn), Soil Gallery (Seattle, WA), the General French Consulate (San Francisco, CA), the Wing (San Francisco, CA), the Center for Fine Art Photography (Fort Collins, CO), Minnesota Street Project (San Francisco, CA), Galerie l'Inlassable (Paris, FR), Headlands Center for the Arts (Sausalito, CA) and Present Company (Brooklyn, NY). She was awarded residencies at Penumbra Foundation, Banff Centre, Minnesota Street Project and Headlands Center for the Arts. Her work is present in various public, corporate and private collections, including the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago, SFMOMA Library and Archives, Facebook (commission mural) in Sunnyvale, Instagram Inc. in San Francisco and Penumbra Foundation in New York City. She is part of the first cohort in the new residency program at the World Trade Center, the Silver Art Projects and preparing a solo exhibition at Melanie Flood Projects (Portland, OR) in the Spring 2021.

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