

JAMES HARRIS GALLERY

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Emily Sudd:

Sitting in the Dark

October 20- November 30, 2018

Opening Reception:

Saturday, October 20th 12 – 3pm

Gallery Hours are:

Wed. - Sat. 11:00am - 5:00pm

Tuesday by appointment

Additional images are available upon request

Left:

Emily Sudd

“Motherhood Series #25” 2018

Clay, glaze, glass, and collected ceramic objects

12 x 6 ½ x 2 ½ inches

James Harris Gallery is pleased to announce our first solo exhibition titled *Sitting in the Dark* by Los Angeles artist, Emily Sudd. She is a multi-disciplinary artist whose core practice focuses on the medium of ceramics. For this exhibition, her ceramic sculptures will be accompanied by a new group of wall mounted sculpture created out of stainless-steel jewelry chain. Both bodies of work engage in conversation with still life and narrative painting; Post-Minimalist sculpture; and hierarchies of materials and taste. Sudd looks to analyze the spaces occupied by art and craft and the visual cues associated with these categories.

In late 2017, Sudd began a new series of work titled “Motherhood Secrets” that establishes a metaphorical relationship with personal narrative, connecting with her recent experience as a new mother. She begins by throwing bottle forms on the potter’s wheel; then slices them in half and fills them with broken collectible kitsch ceramic objects, glazes, and glass before firing, grinding, and polishing the pieces to a finished state. The end result is an object that speaks to process, impermanence, and the discarded material culture of today. Though rooted in the tradition of the vessel, Sudd’s sculptures become a contemporary archeological interpretation akin to a geologic cross-section, revealing the intricate patterning of an amalgamation of material produced through compression, metamorphism, and vitrification.

Appearing as intimate line drawings on the wall, Sudd’s compositions made with jewelry chain reference both still life and landscape through friction between the visual line of the chain and the draping created by its weight. The figure/ground opposition is borrowed directly from the conventions of painting and drawing rather than sculpture, but Sudd’s choice of jewelry chain ties it to the dimensionality of sculpture and demonstrates her interest in the pushing the balance between art and craft.

Emily Sudd (b. Santa Monica, CA 1977) is an artist based in Los Angeles. She holds an MFA in studio art from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA); an MA in studio art from California State University, Northridge (CSUN); and a BA in studio art from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). She has participated in several group exhibitions at venues including The Craft and Folk Art Museum, Roberts & Tilton, Angles Gallery, and Anat Ebgi in Los Angeles; Sargent’s Daughters Gallery in New York; and was featured in the “Ceramic Top 40” exhibition in Kansas City, MO, organized by Ferrin Contemporary. Sudd had a solo exhibition at the Weingart Gallery at Occidental College, in February, 2015.