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HABER SPACE at CENTRAL BOOKING

Presents

Fossil Tales

February 8 - March 25, 2018

Opening Reception
Thursday, February 8, 6-8pm

Art & Science Panel: An Imperfect Messenger
Friday, March 2, 6:30pm
Moderator - Frank Ippolito, American Museum of Natural History

Curator: Maddy Rosenberg

New York, NY – CENTRAL BOOKING opens the spring season in our Haber Space, with the exhibition *Fossil Tales*, curated by Maddy Rosenberg. The work of twenty-three artists inhabits the gallery to create the ambience of a museum installation. In conjunction with the exhibition, we will present on March 2 the latest in the Art & Science Discussion Panel series, *An Imperfect Messenger*, moderated by Frank Ippolito of the American Museum of Natural History.

From the earth, back to the earth, the cycle of our material existence. But sometimes all is not ashes, we leave a trace behind – whether it be almost perfectly preserved bones or imprints of organic matter that are nothing more than mere embedded shadows. There is a history of the living on this earth cast in encrusted layers, extended from well before humans could discover and acknowledge them. Whether simple or complex, some survive to this day, others were here and gone in a blink of time. We inch closer to uncovering the reasons why such powerful animals such as the dinosaurs disappeared, leaving us enough to reconstruct their existence and to question the span of ours.

These artists do more than explore, they scratch beneath the surface to reveal. **Frank Ippolito** renders diagrammatic versions of dinosaur bones for the historical record, ready for display. **Marilyn R. Rosenberg** arranges her found bones as they may have been set in stone, while **Desirée Alvarez** montages drawings of dinosaur bones captured in motion, without a human witness. Though **Nina Kuo and Lorin Roser** may excavate the caves of China for dinosaur eggs to replicate in clay, **Lynn Sures**

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fashions her caves of paper and lends a hand to delicate drawings of petrified bones. The prints of **Shelley Haven** examine the textures of the rocks for any indication of life and **Ursula Clark** molds and buries in the sand traces of plant and animal life of a possible bygone era.

With **Alan Rosner**, manmade mechanical parts emulate creatures emerging from the sea. **Barbara Rosenthal** combs the seas and the land, finding no two creatures exactly alike. The altered page of **Doug Beube** perhaps embodies a long gone flying creature of its own, but the subject of the sculptural paper collage of **C Bangs** returns heaven to earth, riding on the back of an extinct being.

The accordion book of **Patricia Olynyk** imprints its way through prehistory, as the basic books of **Deborah and Glenn Doering** cast the world in its own story of the beginnings. **Elizabeth Hubler-Torrey** triples our pleasure- with her simulated re-creation in three panels. Barely visible, the embossings of **Gerhild Ebel** mark the single cell organisms of origin, as **Steven Gawoski** expands upon them, adding form and detail in his drawings, with art mimicking life.

The ethereal layered image-laden cloth pieces of **Kathy Strauss** echo a distant memory. The fossils **Yoon Cho** employ in her work seem to be frozen in nascent development, removed from their habitat to loom above it. The boxed specimens of **Maddy Rosenberg** are perhaps preserved through millennia in ice, as the installation of **Sue Karnet** plays with discarded preserves of another kind. **Sarah Stengle** scrolls New York fossil bed images through a MOVIEOLA film-editing machine, linking the ancient with the antique.

From the remains of the barest life forms to full-fledged creatures that no longer inhabit the earth, we are able to re-construct once unknowable past lives. It is up to us whether we use the knowledge to understand the present with somewhat more insight.

CENTRAL BOOKING is a multi-disciplinary international art space, founded and run by artist/curator **Maddy Rosenberg**, dedicated to the expanse of the book as art in dialog with the convergence of art & science.

CENTRAL BOOKING consists of:

- **Artist's Book Gallery (ABG)** featuring the work of over 160 established and emerging artists worldwide.
- **Haber Space**, specializing in Art and Science thematic group exhibitions.
- **the Library**, special exhibitions of contemporary art.
- **OffLINE Event Space**, the Place for Multi-disciplinary Interaction with a full program of interdisciplinary events and collaborations.

CENTRAL BOOKING

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Hours: Thursday-Sunday, 12-6 PM

Subway: F to East Broadway, B/D to Grand Street

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