

BENEDICT SCHEUER: LAUGHING UPON THE STRETCH OF A SWOOPING LINE at FORELAND Catskill April 26 – May 28, 2023

For the gallery's second presentation at Foreland, Abattoir introduces work by Benedict Scheuer, an interdisciplinary artist whose practice is informed by drawing, gardening, nature, inclusion, and meditation. His presentation consists of paintings on silk, hung freeform on the gallery walls and a selection of framed works on paper. All Scheuer's work underscores his deeply focused drawing practice, which serves to channel the physical acts of gardening and the concentration of meditation into the act of drawing itself. Miraculous and spiritual, his work celebrates sensation and an awareness of the interconnection of all things. In his work on silk and paper, he is developing a personal relationship to breathing as a dually physical and spiritual mystery.

Scheuer lives and works in Columbus, OH. He received his BA at Yale, his MFA at the OSU(Columbus). Recently, his work was part of FRONT International at the Akron Art Museum. Other exhibitions include shows at No Place Gallery and the Pizutti Collection, both in Columbus, and the Belle Isle Viewing Room (Detroit). He will be featured in a two person show at the Brattleboro Museum (VT) next year.

Scheuer journal entry, 2022:

Last night, I went into the garden to cut two vases of zinnias and marigolds. Hands rich in the smell of flowers, I began to prepare the studio. I positioned a stretched silk from the other day in front of my chair and lit two sticks of incense—patchouli, standing balanced in the drain to my right, and nag champa, resting in the hole of an empty goose egg. The garage filled with aromatic smoke and my body recognized the ritual of this burning as a call to meditation. And so, sitting up on my chair, posture intentional, I began.. breathing deep. For twenty minutes I fell into a trance of breath and felt captive to it.

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