

# Land Marks

November 2 – 30, 2017

Curated by Heejung Cho

Opening Reception: Thursday, November 2, 6-9pm  
The Cluster Gallery, 200 6th Street, 3E, Brooklyn, NY 11215



The Cluster Gallery is pleased to present “Land Marks”, a group exhibition featuring works by Liene Bosquê, Noa Charuvi, Heejung Cho and Armita Raafat. The exhibition will be on view from November 2nd through November 30th, 2017, with a public opening reception on November 2nd from 6 to 9pm, along with other galleries in Gowanus, Brooklyn.

“Land Marks” is a compilation of mixed-media architectural representations of the lives of four female artists hailing from Brazil, Iran, Israel and Korea. Each work and artist shares a prowess for encapsulating personal narrative using fabrication and construction of architectural elements and urban structures. Their works transform the exhibition space into an archeological site, portraying each artists’ personal odyssey across place, milestone, and place of origin as women, migrants, adults, humans, and artists.

Bosquê, Charuvi, Cho and Raafat employ a similar approach to their process, by creating tensions between the following: deconstructing and constructing historical and geographical context, physical and spiritual, transience and permanence, demolition and decay, monolith and mundane. Each artist selects a different facet of either architectural importance or insignificance and reserves a different artistic practice to create a cornerstone, frieze, relic, or alter embodying their autobiographical accounts in and outside of their respective countries and shared homes in New York City. Each individual body of work uniquely addresses balance, foreignness, migration, and abstraction to carry wispy memories marred by the harsh, elemental passage of time in each artists’ life.

Bosquê interlaces rusted ironworks and fabric as an embodiment of the oppositional experiences of lightness, fragility, strength, and heaviness felt in her personal dissociation across geographic and psychological borders throughout her life. She gathers rusted, decorative iron rails from staircases and balconies and imprints them onto fabric using the rusted dye and cyanotype techniques. Each installation invokes both the flutter of wind through the fabric and the grounded weight of the iron impressions, invoking a need to imagine space and dimension beyond borders and boundaries.

Cho abstracts the urban landscape in one point perspective with reclaimed wood scraps. She puzzles pieces wood panels to establish perspectival space. Her works explore how emotive visual memories of once-familiar places inevitably distort into architectural abstraction over time. Her panel works and its imprinted paper works juxtapose two different presences and their mutual conversation between physicality of material and the reminiscence of the dense flattened space evokes estrangement beyond the physical place and time.

Charuvi depicts specific construction sites throughout Lower Manhattan and re-contextualizes them as monolithic portraits. Charuvi’s bold colors, composition, and brush strokes create a gesture traditionally reserved for portraiture and landscape paintings; instead, she honors the whimsical anonymity of construction sites and materials as nameless yet celebrated, prominent figures. The objects she chose for painting are seemingly ordinary and masculine; however, her static and distilled painting style transforms them into monumental, commemorated portraits in honor of a specific time and place.

Raafat assembles and dismantles geometric forms inspired by Islamic architectonic motifs to create multifaceted sculptures and installations that appear frozen in moments of dissolution. Blending elements from her cultural heritage and artistic intuition, she collages and constructs structures with a variety of industrial materials and paints, referencing traditional structures with contemporary materials. Her sculptures become the leftovers of cultural disjunction - strangely decorative hives of overlapping experiences.

The **Cluster** Gallery  
Brooklyn Art **Cluster**

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