



GILLES CLEMENT GALLERY

45 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich CT 06830
www.gclementgallery.com
203.489.3556

PRESS RELEASE

MARCK + SPERBER: *Through the Looking Glass*

Alternative Viewpoints

Gilles Clement Gallery October 12 – November 15, 2018



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Greenwich, CT September 2018: Going full throttle with their creative license to manipulate reality and perception, the two artists featured in the upcoming exhibit at **GILLES CLEMENT GALLERY** utilize their respective mediums to draw the viewer into a wonderland of optical illusion, playful visual layering and unexpected use of space and scale. The human visage and form take the thematic center stage, presented in the gargantuan pixilated enlargements of **Devorah Sperber's** thread spool installations, and the miniaturized women of **MARCK's** video sculptures, dancing in an elegant decorative case, trapped in a spinning tank, or posing as the power source of a light box. Invited to experience the effect of the proverbial 'rabbit hole', the viewer will discover a gallery presentation at once foreign, yet familiar; strange, yet enchanting. The walls come alive with multiple moving picture screens, constructed in wood or metal, brightly painted or distressed; wind blowing, water running, colors draping. In contrast, Sperber's flat inverted pointillist constructions seem oddly remote and static; yet, upon closer inspection - literally through a crystal orb - the images flip upright and appear in realistic 3-D form. Expect no ordinary art browse – the eyes are engaged as never before, the brain challenged and teased, and the spirits uplifted by this delightful pairing of conceptual and technical artistry.



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Devorah Sperber is an American installation artist known for creating works that act as optical illusions. The pieces featured in this exhibit employ thousands of spools of thread to create pixilated versions of iconic works of art by famous artists. Her naming scheme for these works generally follows the format "After [Artist]/[Work]". For example, her creation of the Van Eyck Self-Portrait, using spools of thread is titled *After Van Eyck*. The spools are hung in long, adjacent columns to create a pointillist, inverted abstraction of a famous painting. When viewed by the naked eye, they are barely recognizable. When viewed through an optical device, usually a "viewing sphere" (a 2" diameter transparent orb) placed several feet in front of the spools), the abstractions are inverted and shrunk into a remarkably detailed and faithful image of the original painting. The resulting image is usually distorted the way objects are distorted when viewed through a fisheye lens. Sperber has wittily used the fish eye; she deconstructs familiar images, so that the brain can reconstruct them, addressing the way we think we see versus the way the brain actually processes visual information.

The video sculptures by Swiss artist **MARCK** are more than a simple combination of video and sculpture: They are a logic consequence of his extensive examination with films and videos, multimedia based projects, music, sculptural and kinetic objects. The technical media available to him allow MARCK to cross borders of perception. The video is not only a messenger (of a visual message); the sculptural frame is a spatial dimension which he seeks to break through. The examination of humans and their world of feelings are central to MARCK's work. It is based on the search for a combination of influence from the outside and inner conditions. The women in MARCK's video installations are locked in narrow spaces. They function as symbols of the societal limitations in which women find themselves. At the same time they function as patterns for inter-gender relationships and communication. His women are limited in their movement, yet use it to explore the narrow rooms provided for them - seeking dissolution of boundaries and physical limitations. Rather than serving as a mouthpiece for typical women's topics, MARCK chooses the woman as a symbol for his observations of society. His works are not meant to provide answers or targeted interpretations, but rather to raise questions and inspire considerations.

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WEBSITE: <https://www.gclementgallery.com>



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RELATED EVENTS:

Friday October 12th 7:00-9:00pm Opening Reception

Wednesday October 17th 4:30 -7:30pm Greenwich Design District Taste and Tour

October 22-28, 2018 Experience Greenwich Week, Participating Art Gallery

Wednesday October 24th Art + Fashion event with Michelle Farmer Collaborative

MEDIA CONTACT:

For further info, images or to arrange an interview with the artists:

Dianne Niklaus, Gallery Director

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IMAGE INFO:

MARCK

On/Off, 2015. LCD panel, iron, lightbulb, chain, video loop 20:16 min, 37.4" x 17.7" x 6.3"

DEVORAH SPERBER

After Van Eyck, 2006. 5024 spools of thread, stainless steel ball chain and hanging apparatus, clear acrylic viewing sphere, metal stand, 122" x 100" x 60"