



## **FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE**

*No Permanence Is Ours: Jane Brucker & Park Chel-Ho*

JANUARY 5 - FEBRUARY 2

OPENING RECEPTION: JAN. 5, 2019 | 6 PM - 8 PM

Baik Art LA is pleased to present *No Permanence is Ours: Jane Brucker & Park Chel-Ho*. This exhibition will be on display from January 5, 2019, to February 2, 2019. An opening reception will be held on Saturday, January 5, 2019, from 6-8PM.

Buddhist philosophy teaches us that impermanence is key to existence. All phenomena, without exception, are subject to change, coming and going in never-ending cycles of birth, death, and rebirth. Intimately linked to the concept of impermanence in Buddhist thought is the idea that nothing has an enduring essence, that there is no unchanging soul or self, no lasting anything to anchor our human experience. Instead, all physical and mental events are by nature transient, leading to pain and suffering, for we prefer, as the German poet Hermann Hesse so eloquently noted, a life that is fixed in place. Understanding and accepting impermanence is an important step on the Buddhist's path to spiritual enlightenment, the profound realization that everything arises, changes, and fades away.

The two artists in this exhibition recall these ancient, if often forgotten truths, in works that are at once universal and personal. Park Chel-Ho's contemplative *Ripple* (2018) and *Circulation* (2016-18) series betray his abiding interest in nature and its myriad shifting, evanescent events. His delicate, lace-like shapes drift across the picture plane without weight or specificity, simple reflections, perhaps, of dappling sunlight, or frothy residue on a watery substrate. Like unstable compounds, these diaphanous forms lead a fleeting existence, perpetually coming together, hovering for a moment, and floating apart. Together, they evoke time and movement, like cinematic events that unfold before our eyes, then cease to exist. The natural linen on which Park's forms are printed grounds them, suggesting human manufacture and age-old narratives aimed at giving meaning to a constantly changing world.

Jane Brucker's *Unravel* project, begun in 2009, likewise addresses things in flux, focusing on the human activities of doing, undoing, and redoing. Hand-knit sweaters, shawls, blankets and vests in varying shades of cream and beige are taken apart and re-assembled in a process that mirrors the compromise and change inherent in life. Arrayed on tiny shelves and organized on the wall like flotsam in a seemingly infinite display, her half-finished clothes are but temporary manifestations, inviting us to ponder grief and loss. Her found objects, cast in bronze, suggest our human desire to arrest things, however futile the effort may be. A trained Alexander Technique teacher, Brucker, in her accompanying *Unravel* performance, uses gentle touch to guide participants toward letting go of physical and mental attachments and toward the acceptance of impermanence as a guiding principle of life. Like Park-Chel-Ho, she reminds us that actions, not things or events, are the real 'forms that bind.' They are, as the ancient Buddhist texts instruct, our only true belongings and the soil upon which we stand.

Curation and press statements courtesy of Claudia Bohn-Spector.

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