

CATBOX  
C O N T E M P O R A R Y



*WORK HARDER*

Max Heiges & Gretta Johnson

*April 16th - May 21st, 2017*

Catbox Contemporary is pleased to announce, "Work Harder", a two person show of new works by Max Heiges and Gretta Johnson. The show is comprised of two motorized freestanding sculptures and a sprawling panoramic work on paper that covers the entirety of the gallery's walls. Both Heiges and Johnson weave signifiers of their respective processes into their inventive representational and abstract shapes, forming a complex narrative surrounding art as an implement of labor.

The ambiguously organic actors in Johnson's "mural" cling to a lattice-work which is laden with domestic objects (i.e. curtains, planters and ladders). By constantly re-appraising and adding to her composition, Johnson creates an intricately textured surface that both fragments and unifies the image. The accumulated marks allude to the theatricality of their creation, setting the stage for references to the vernacular of abstraction, the drawings of Albrecht Dürer, and superstition.

Heiges' looming dark sculptures, which stand nearly floor to ceiling, rotate steadily on their individual pedestals, borrowing color from their slick reflections of Johnson's vista. The objects Heiges' chooses to arduously contour in metal fluidly subvert perception and achievement; a skewed window frame and an inverted trophy. The sculptures' deliberate and methodical turning allows the viewer to inspect and appreciate the flatness of their roughly chiseled edges.

Where Johnson's work deals with the suspension of disbelief in favor of forging relationships between figurative and abstract forms, Heiges' doubles down on emphasizing the weight of representation. Their combined effort generates a dialogue between the burden of achieving a simplified cohesive form and the labor it takes to produce it.

Max Heiges (b. 1988) received his BA from Dartmouth college. Heiges recently had two large scale sculptures in a group exhibition at Venus Los Angeles, curated by Adrienne Rubenstein. In 2016 Heiges had a solo display of outdoor sculptures at NADA, Miami Beach. He lives and works in New York City.

Gretta Johnson (b. 1985) received her BFA from Rhode Island School of Design. Johnson has had one or two person shows at Safe Gallery, Culture Room, and Feuer Mesler. She lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.

Catbox Contemporary is located in Ridgewood, NY. An opening will be held on **April 16, 4-7 pm**. The show will be available to view by appointment through May 21st. Contact [catboxcontemporary@gmail.com](mailto:catboxcontemporary@gmail.com) for further information and exact location.