



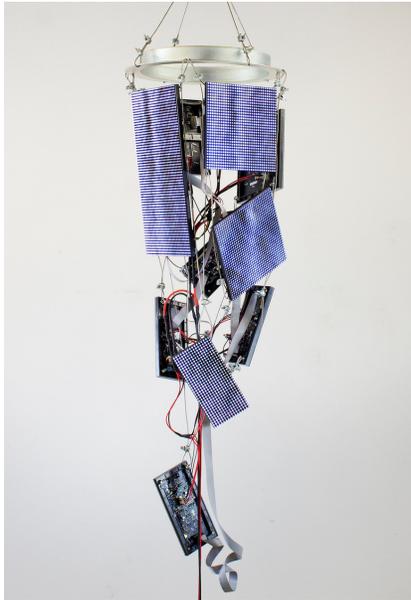
microscope gallery

1329 Willoughby Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11237
Hours: Thurs-Mon, 1-6pm
T: 347.925.1433
www.microscopegallery.com

Rachel Rosheger
“Gone Before You Get There”

May 1 - June 5, 2021

Opening Saturday May 1, 12-8pm



Rachel Rosheger, “Niagara Falls,” 2021, LED matrix panels, customized LED driver, microcontroller, custom cables, ribbon cable, power supply unit, steel, wire rope, conformal coating, 60 x 16 x 16 inches — Image courtesy of the artist and Microscope

Microscope Gallery is very pleased to present ***Gone Before You Get There***, the first solo exhibition of New York-based artist Rachel Rosheger. The exhibition also inaugurates our new location for the gallery on West 29th Street in Chelsea following our move in April.

Weather systems, energy and power and the failed dreams of innovators, such as Nikola Tesla — who in the 1890s imagined a free and wireless electric world at a time when others were working to profit from it — are among the specific concerns of Rosheger’s new LED sculptures, 3D printed installation, and silverpoint drawings.

A series of medium-sized sculptures feature videos of storms and other natural forces playing across individual LED matrix panels that are suspended from 19th century lightning rods and various metal structures constructed by the artist, alluding to the endless efforts of humans to capture and control nature, among other themes.

For example, scenes of battering rain and winds composed of excerpts from appropriated storm chaser footage appear on the panels of two floor sculptures, “Gone before you get there, I” and “Gone before you get there, II,” with the titles referencing a phrase from a doomsday survival “prepper” magazine advising its readers to stockpile supplies while they still can. Images of rapid flowing waterfalls cascade across the dangling LEDs of the suspended installation “Niagara Falls.” The sculpture’s shape simultaneously evokes swirling eddies, opulent chandeliers, or broken Jumbotrons.

Because of the low resolution of the LED technology Rosheger uses, in which every light on a panel corresponds to a single digital pixel, what appears to be abstract imagery gradually becomes decipherable with distance. The custom electrical cords and electronics programmed by the artist are also exposed and essential components of these works.

Failed visions of better futures inform the floor installation “Fall,” a work comprised of a swarm of twenty identical 3D printed objects based on an old style of lightning rod toppers, which have been individually treated with copper and patinated to imitate decades of weathering. Rosheger turns the “toppers” upside down with their spikes on the ground rather than “reaching to the heavens” from the highest point of a building as originally intended.

In a series of new silverpoint drawings — a medium in which every mark is permanent — the artist herself attempts to capture the wind in its various forms, from a breeze rustling a rooster’s feathers to a presence capable of knocking down trees and utility lines. It is the wind that Rosheger draws in these works, with animals and objects formed in the empty spaces.

Rachel Rosheger: Gone before you get there opens Saturday May 1st and runs through Saturday June 5th. Opening: Saturday May 1st, 12pm to 8pm. Up to 5 visitors are allowed in the exhibition space at one time. Appointment recommended but not required. For inquiries or appointments please contact the gallery at inquiries@microscopegallery.com

Gallery Hours: Tuesdays through Saturdays, 12pm to 6pm. **Microscope Gallery is located at 525 West 29th Street, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10001.**

Rachel Rosheger (b.1994) is an artist based in New York whose work interweaves electronics with physical materials. She often uses various earth systems, such as weather or geology, as points of departure to explore current technological and cultural landscapes. Her work has been previously exhibited at Mery Gates, Rhizome Parking Garage, and 41 Cooper Square (Benjamin Menschel Fellowship Exhibition), among others. Screenings include at Anthology Film Archives and Microscope Gallery, among others. Rachel Rosheger graduated with a BFA from Cooper Union School of Art in 2017 and is a recipient of the 2018 Benjamin Menschel Fellowship.



Rachel Rosheger, “Fall,” 2021, resin, PLA, acrylic, copper, verdigris, dimensions variable (detail)
Image courtesy of the artist and Microscope