

GATHERING TEXTURE, FOLLOWING SHAPE
NANCY SHAVER & EMI WINTER
February 3 – March 30, 2019

Parker Gallery is pleased to present a two-person exhibition of works by Nancy Shaver and Emi Winter. *Gathering texture, following shape* includes recent sculptures by Shaver, together with woven rugs and paintings by Winter. Both artists are included in the current exhibition *Outliers and American Vanguard Art*, on view at LACMA through March 17th. Nancy Shaver has also created an installation spanning over forty feet for the exhibition *One Day at a Time: Manny Farber and Termite Art*, on view through March 11th at MOCA Grand Avenue.

In both of their art practices, Shaver and Winter have expressed reverence for the rituals and intimacy of the space we call home. Their works in this exhibition do not seek to imitate the domestic but rather to bring the artwork home. The dual usage of Parker Gallery, as an exhibition space and residence, is of particular significance to this presentation, locating the home as a traditional site for the display of art.

Nancy Shaver began her artistic practice in the early 1970s as a photographer, before focusing on found objects as a way to tell stories relating one object to the next. She soon moved away from recognizable objects with the aim of allowing color and abstraction to inform the narrative; distinct groups of shapes and structures began to emerge, constructed with an infinite array of found fabrics, painted paper, wooden blocks and empty containers. Included in this exhibition are examples of Blockers, Boxes and Sentinels, along with three large-scale sculptures offering further variations to the taxonomy.

In 1999, Shaver opened an antique shop in Hudson, NY called Henry. At Henry, one will find handwoven textiles, odd embroidered pillows, wooden tools of ambiguous function, and ugly lamps among innumerable indescribable things. There is a certain fluidity between Henry and Shaver's studio. Objects will occasionally migrate from one to the other. Shaver often chooses to exhibit her work together with objects from her ever-expanding community of artists and fellow bricoleurs.

This two-person exhibition reveals the alternate embrace and rejection of craft-making principles inherent to each artist's practice. Emi Winter was raised in Oaxaca, Mexico and works with Zapotec weavers to create rugs that

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borrow traditional patterns and designs. As an object, a rug is an everyday furnishing that exists equally in the realm of decoration and utility. Working closely with craftspeople from her hometown, Winter maintains a connection to the culture and community. She invents disruptions to the original rug designs to carry their culture into the present, complicating the weaving process without straying too far from its origins. Her design interventions reflect the visual disorganization of Victorian crazy quilts, tempered by the rigor of hard-edge geometric painting. Winter's paintings of roses with scissors offer a parallel contradiction: the depiction of physically incongruous objects that rely on each other to make sense of their shared space.

Gathering texture, following shape will be on view through March 30th. Parker Gallery is open Thursday through Saturday, 12-6pm and by appointment.

Nancy Shaver (b. 1946 Appleton, NY, lives and works in Jefferson, NY). Select solo exhibitions include *A part of a part of part*, Derek Eller Gallery, New York, NY (2018), *Nancy Shaver: Reconciliation*, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, CT (2015), *Feature, Inc.*, New York, NY (2002-2011) and Curt Marcus Gallery, New York, NY (1987-1999). Select group exhibitions include *One Day at a Time: Manny Farber and Termite Art*, MOCA, Los Angeles, CA (2018), *Outliers and American Vanguard Art*, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC (2018), *VIVA ARTE VIVA*, 57th International Exhibition of Art, La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy (2017), *Greater New York*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY (2015), and *Robert Gober: The Heart is Not a Metaphor*, MoMA, New York, NY (2014).

Emi Winter (b. 1973 Oaxaca, Mexico, lives and works in South Orange, NJ). Select solo and two person exhibitions include *This rock absorbs nothing so the water splashes around it and lands back on itself*, Uterior Gallery, New York, NY (2018), *House / Cat*, The Suburban, Milwaukee, WI (2016), *El Fragmento Completo*, Museo de los Pintores Oaxaqueños, Oaxaca, Mexico (2014), *Momotos y Tangaras*, Galería Quetzalli, Oaxaca, Mexico (2003) and *Gráfica*, The Chinati Foundation, Marfa, Texas (2001). Select group exhibitions include *Outliers and American Vanguard Art*, National Gallery of Art, Washington DC (2018), *American Genre: Contemporary Painting*, Institute of Contemporary Art at Maine College of Art, Portland, ME, curated by Michelle Grabner (2016) and *XV Bienal de Pintura Rufino Tamayo*, Museo Tamayo, México DF (2011).