



Palo Gallery Presents *My My My Tintals and Fishscales* by Rachel Wolf
July 7–August 31, 2023



Rachel Wolf, *The Hut*, 2023
Courtesy of the Artist

New York, NY (July 7, 2023) — Palo Gallery presents Rachel Wolf's first solo presentation, featuring new installation, sculpture, and paintings. The exhibition, titled *My My My Tintals and Fishscales* is an exploration of materiality, language, and physicality. Wolf created this series of artworks over the last three years for her Cooper Union MFA show in 2023, and this is the first time these works will be presented as a collective body of work.

Wolf's practice explores themes of documentation, repetition, variation, and the blurring of boundaries between organic and inorganic objects and materials. The artist is fascinated by the rules and parameters of structures, particularly the boundaries that various structures impose, and the symbiotic relationship between objects and their containers. Wolf explores forgotten and ignored materials, from dead insects to soap, using them in her work and placing them amongst found, natural materials like bone, bark, and moss. The focus on material and its potential relationships with other elements creates artworks that are both delicate and resilient in their ability to refocus the viewer's attention toward the physical world.

In *My My My Tintals and Fishscales*, the viewer is presented with the duality of order and chaos. The walls are not hung with predetermined plans, but rather filled organically. At the center of the exhibition is *The Hut* – a dwelling-like installation covered in dried glass noodles, made to resemble a marketplace, or an imaginary shed in the woods that exists as a repository for foraged materials. Inside is a collection of Wolf's latest *soap sculptures* – otherworldly objects made to resemble a celestial being, underwater spores, or an entirely new ecological amalgamation. Fragile mobiles and obscure organic objects float around the gallery. These intricate sculptures are pieced together from found organic materials – such as moss, cow teeth, dried flowers, and honeycomb – with inorganic materials, like wire and plastic tubing, to secure their structural mechanism.

Language, through collaged text and word play, plays a vital role in the artist's practice. Wolf often marks her sculptures with poetic pairings of adjectives and nouns that challenge the materials and boundaries at play. Through her work, Wolf aims to create a biosphere that exists outside of the viewer's reality, where objects find their homes and form essential relationships with their containers.

About Rachel Wolf

Rachel Wolf is a multi-media artist based between Colorado, New York and Panama. Born in 1999 in New York, Wolf grew up surrounded by the artistic influences of her city while also garnering an exacting relationship with nature in her travels to more remote environments. She graduated from Cooper Union in 2023.

Wolf's artistic philosophy revolves around the idea of removing herself as the creator. She challenges the concept of authorship by reassembling objects made from organic and inorganic materials. By doing so, a fictional narrative around their place of origin arises as she questions the parallels between seemingly organic patterns in inorganic objects. Her process is imbued with both poetry and alchemy.

She meticulously collects and catalogues materials, creating evidence of an imaginary biome. Through rearranging these disparate materials, she creates a visual narrative that suggests they originate from the same environment. As Wolf explains her process, *"I take nouns and use them as a set of parentheses for new laws. I swap adjectives for atoms and stitch together a new confection. Maybe you can eat it."*

About Palo Gallery

Established in 2018 in New York City by third-generation art collector and dealer Paul Henkel, Palo Gallery brings to bear a tradition of art scholarship and patronage, working as a true thought partner with artists to realize their visions and create dynamic presentations. Extensive research by the Palo curatorial team ensures that each exhibition is advised by the art historical canon and contemporary cultural touchpoints. In 2022, Palo Gallery opened its new 3,400-square-foot flagship space designed by Selldorf Architects in the NoHo district of Manhattan as the only dedicated partner showcasing Vica by Annabelle Selldorf. A destination of discovery, Palo Gallery's multifaceted program ranges from tightly curated, thematic group exhibitions to insightful art historically informed solo exhibitions spanning a breadth of artistic endeavors.

Since its inception, Palo Gallery has sought to incorporate thematic elements into its curatorial practice – whether it be group shows or solo presentations. Early exhibitions marked the gallery's foray into concept-driven presentations focusing on themes of memory and our most primitive instincts. *Memories Manifest* (2021) saw seven artists working in response to each other and the theme of memory, while *Primordial* (2021) investigated the ways that thoughts, emotions, reactions, and experiences speak to our most primitive instincts. The large-scale *Real Wild* (2022) presented an array of representations and interpretations of iconography from the American Wild West, a setting of which many of us have a collective archetype that the exhibition sought to re-contextualize. Building on the success of these conceptual group exhibitions, Palo has continued navigating contemporary cultural topics via art historical narratives with a number of solo exhibitions. Today, the gallery continues to showcase thematic presentations that offer Palo Gallery and its artists a unique opportunity to explore pivotal cultural and historical topics at a level that transcends those achieved via a standard solo exhibition.

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