



la
chambre
blanche



VALERIE BLASS

The manipulator manipulated



site-specific residency

from March 18th to April 21st 2013

5@7

Thursday April 11th 2013

www

<http://www.parisianlaundry.com>

LA CHAMBRE BLANCHE is very proud to welcome renowned Montreal artist Valerie Blass, who will be in site-specific production residency from March 18th to April 21st 2013. The artist's project falls in a research and creation period that will last for a year and will conclude with a solo exhibition at Parisian Laundry in January 2014. Valerie Blass' sculptural work juggles skillfully with a big range of history of art and semantics references, and aims to tip over viewer's perceptive habits, as well as his/hers automatisms of formal and tangible recognition, by putting forward new sensitive structures and bold veracious systems.

Valerie Blass draws from every-day life objects and situations, dissects and reassembles them, reinvents them and positions them in a fragile balance between the recognizable and the odd, by allowing any arbitrary association. Within her work coexist multiple sensitive layers (and layers of sense), in which matter becomes shape – sometimes abstract, sometimes concrete -, while generating ambivalent perceptive instants. The noticeable presence of anthropomorphic shapes, that spawn form the mass and melt in it, amplify this impression of oddness felt by the viewer in front of Valerie Blass' sculptures, because the veracity of his/her own anatomical and sensitive body is being questioned.

Valerie Blass obtained a BFA and a MFA in visual and media arts from Quebec University in Montreal. Blass was an invited artist in the inaugural Quebec Triennial at the Montreal Museum of Contemporary Art. The museum subsequently acquired one of her sculptures for their permanent collection. She has had solo shows in Montreal at gallery Circa, gallery B-312, Dare-Dare, gallery Foreman (Sherbrooke), in Quebec City at L'Œil de poisson, in Toronto at the Museum of Canadian Contemporary Art as well as group shows most recently at the Power Plant, Toronto, curated by Helena Reckitt, UQAM Gallery, Clark and Blackwood Gallery. Her work is also found in the permanent collection of the The National Gallery of Canada, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the Contemporary Museum of Montreal, the loan collection of the National Fine Arts Museum of Quebec, The Royal Bank of Canada, as well as privately. In 2012, the Montreal Museum of Contemporary Art exhibited the latest work of the artist, which later on went on tour at Art Gallery of Hamilton (Ontario) and Illingworth Kerr Gallery (Alberta) and was honored with a big publication.

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