

# KATE WERBLE GALLERY

83 VANDAM STREET NEW YORK, NY 10013

**KATY COWAN**  
**THE BLUE SUN MOANS**  
**JANUARY 15 – MARCH 7, 2020**

**Opening Wednesday, January 15 from 6-8 PM**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

In *The Blue Sun Moans*, Katy Cowan's cast aluminum wall hanging sculptures take the associative and material qualities of rope as their prompt. Reconfigured and recomposed, this familiar object reveals a plethora of new associations. Cowan's material interest in objects and tools of work, such as hammers and two-by-fours, intersects in this new body of work with her attention to the mutability of color and light. Her sculptures are produced via a casting process that echoes the traditional production of rope, in which the twisting together of fibers, yarns, and strands into a single form gives it its tensile strength. Cast whole in aluminum and painted with enamels and oils, Cowan's works unhinge their source material from its usual function and straddle the categories of painting, sculpture, and drawing. The exhibition's title borrows from a line in a poem written by SJ Cowan and draws upon the referential affinities of the artist's chosen materials, which spill across landscapes both earthly and imaginary.

*Katy Cowan (b. 1982, Lake Geneva, WI) received her BFA from University of Puget Sound in 2004 and her MFA from Otis College of Art and Design in 2014. Cowan's work has recently been featured in a two-person exhibition, The Day in the Night at Philip Martin Gallery (Los Angeles, CA) alongside artist Pamela Jorden, and was the subject of a solo exhibition Reflected-Into-Themselves-Into-Reflected, at the Lynden Sculpture Garden (Milwaukee, WI). She has been featured in solo and group exhibitions at University of Puget Sound (Tacoma, WA), Madison Museum of Contemporary Art (Madison, WI), Synchrotron Radiation Center: Home of Aladdin (Stoughton, WI), Poor Farm (Manawa, WI), Philip Martin Gallery (Los Angeles, CA), Green Gallery (Milwaukee, WI), Kate Werble Gallery (New York, NY), and Fourteen30 Contemporary (Portland, OR). Cowan's work is in public and private collections such as the Minneapolis Museum of Art (Minneapolis, MN), Lynden Sculpture Garden (Milwaukee, WI), Art in Embassies (Maputo, Mozambique) and Northwestern Mutual Insurance. Her work has been reviewed in Artforum, Los Angeles Times, Architectural Digest, Wallpaper\*, Contemporary Art Review LA, Artnet and other publications. Cowan lives and works in Berkeley, CA.*