

KATE WERBLE GALLERY

83 VANDAM STREET NEW YORK, NY 10013

ANNA BETBEZE
SEPTEMBER 7 - OCTOBER 19, 2013
OPENING SEPTEMBER 7 FROM 6-8 PM



Anna Betbeze, *Snake Coat*, 2013

Anna Betbeze's second solo show at Kate Werble Gallery is comprised of a collection of works eliciting the desire to touch: large scale tapestries made from bath towels saturated with color, a giant pillow, and repurposed bathrobes.

This exhibition expands on Betbeze's previous material and color experiments. Her works on wool engage destructive processes as a mode of transforming material, using the object's resistance to generate new forms. In the new terrycloth works, the material soaks up color to the point of over-saturation, reaching its capacity. The aqueous colors made from acid dyes create soft passages that move between verdant and sun-bleached to the residual, toxic, and soiled. The works conjure a thin membrane separating the interior from the exterior, or the body and space.

A large hand-shaped pillow covered in shaggy Flokati wool rests in the center of the gallery, which viewers are invited to touch and sit on. The six oversized bathrobes hanging on the wall and laying on the pillow can also be slipped on and off, enveloping the viewer and further intensifying the collaboration between the visual and the tactile.

Anna Betbeze, (US, b. 1980) grew up in Columbus, GA, and currently lives and works in New York, NY. She received her BFA from the University of Georgia and her MFA from Yale University. Betbeze has held solo exhibitions at Kate Werble Gallery, New York, NY; Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, North Adams, MA; Lüttgenmeijer, Berlin, DE; and François Ghebaly Gallery, Los Angeles, CA. Past group exhibitions include MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY; Galerie Perrotin, Paris, FR; Luxembourg & Dayan, New York, NY; Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York, NY; Tonya Bonakdar Gallery, New York, NY; and Ramiken Crucible, New York, NY. Her work will be included in *Decorum* at Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris, FR, in October 2013. Betbeze is a recipient of the 2013-2014 Rome Prize in visual arts.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 AM until 6 PM. For additional information please contact info@katewerblegallery.com or call (212) 352.9700.