KATE WERBLE GALLERY

83 VANDAM STREET NEW YORK, NY 10013

Molly Smith

Hours
February 28 – April 4, 2015
Opening Saturday, February 28th from 6-8 PM



Detail, Veil, 2014, beet dye on cotton with wood support, 27 x 66 inches

In the spring of 2013, Molly Smith and her partner moved to 31 acres in rural Western Massachusetts and began to build a house out of materials sourced from the land itself. Left without a studio while simultaneously constructing the new homestead and dismantling a previously existing structure, Smith's home and life within its natural environment became the site, process, and materials from which the works in this exhibition were formed.

The show's title, *Hours*, is a homophone referring to both ownership and time. In a series of 365 watercolors made daily throughout her first year of living on the property, Smith considers the impossibility of claiming time through its measurement, all the while marking its passing. Each work is based on Smith's ideas about value and worth, endurance and cycles, and resources and possession.

Using materials that include found objects, natural materials and waste, Smith responds to observations gleaned from her surroundings. Some are ephemeral and others more permanent, acknowledging that existence must encompass both growth and disintegration. For instance, canvas used as temporary winter insulation becomes the substrate for fugitive dyes, which alter gradually over time. In another work, *Chord*, dried iris leaves bind together a sculpture that may degrade and disappear.

Molly Smith (b. 1976 in Kansas City, MO) received her BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design and her MFA from Columbia University. Smith has held solo exhibitions at Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara, CA (2013); Romer Young Gallery, San Francisco, CA (2013); Kate Werble Gallery, NY (2012, 2010); and KS Art, NY (2008, 2006). Her work has been exhibited at venues including Paula Cooper Gallery, NY; Sikkema Jenkins & Co, NY; Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH; Clifford Art Gallery, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY; Klaus Von Nichtssagend Gallery, NY; Gallery Min Min, Tokyo, JP; and Roger Bjorkholmen Gallery, Stockholm, SE. She currently lives and works in Worthington, MA.