Since 1973, a gallery promoting the work of women artists and serving the community through public events

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# SOHO20 CHELSEA

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## Matchmaker

Amanda Buonocore, Ginny Huo, Naoko Ito, Krista Peters and Allyson Ross

January 31 – February 25, 2012

Opening Reception: Thursday February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6-8pm

Matchmaker is a group exhibition featuring the work of five artists who have been the recipient of the studio residency program at SOHO20 Chelsea gallery. Curated by gallery director Jenn Dierdorf, the selected works demonstrate each artist's interest in joining disparate parts and seeking a new balance with the whole. To varying degrees their work can be viewed as reinterpretations of social paradigms in relation to sex, communication, meme and myth. As each artist scrambles these familiar motifs we eventually arrive at a new and poignant vantage from which to look at ourselves.

Amanda Buonocore's piece, *Someone for Everyone*, examines the public nature of the newspaper versus the privacy of the bedroom. Through various interventions Buonocore pushes the original intention of the author's post far beyond the pages of the newspaper and into the world itself. Her playful, yet mischievous insights riffle through the uncomfortable space of exposed privacy.

The interactive sculpture *Whisper Down the Lane*, by Ginny Huo invites guests to look at the origin and transference of cultural myth. Placing themselves inside large yellow ducts, participants read tales of cautionary myths from a card in a directed game of "telephone". Huo's playful approach gives us a fast-forward look at the distortion of these tales and perhaps their skewed origin.

Naoko Ito's sculpture points to the poetics of the relationship between nature and technology. Her work seeks to rearrange conventional thoughts and question rational categorization. In *Flora*, Ito has compartmentalized and recomposed a tree branch using dozens of glass jars. Her careful dissection all but sterilizes the once living thing.

Printmaker Krista Peters' work is a visceral collage of human and non-human parts. Initially lithograph prints from hand drawn images of bones, feathers and string, Peters' recomposes and layers the prints into original works. The selected works from *Bone Mobile* series features collage on Japanese paper stitched back together in uncanny formations.

Allyson Ross' piece *Half Dome* responds to the highly reproduced iconic photographs of American tourists. Using an image from Carleton Watkins' 1861 photograph of Half Dome in Yosemite National Park, Ross recreates a magical scene of cut paper as miniature pine trees descend the gallery wall. The reproduction of these already breathtaking monuments is no small task, but Ross accomplishes the feat by making us look for the first time.

SOHO20's studio residency program is open to both men and women artists living within the New York City area. The residency provides three months of free studio space with 24-hour access. In addition, artists receive inclusion on the gallery's website, printed promotional materials and participation in gallery sponsored events such as open studios and a public artist talk. The next deadline is March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012. A complete prospectus and application can be viewed on our website at soho20gallery.com.