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Impalpable
Julia Redding

January 30th – February 27th 2015

Julia Redding's *Impalpable*, is an addition to her continuously evolving process-based practice. Redding's explorations into light, fragmentation, colour and sensation tap into universal human experience and beauty, the ephemeral quality of which requires real life presence to be understood.

Redding has been working for the past two years with a mixed media process involving elements such as colour and light. Her process begins by melting sheets of plastic acetate, scrunching them into balls, suspending them, then projecting various self-produced videos through the clusters. The resulting refraction of light and imagery is what Redding captures through photography. The actual content of the video is irrelevant, but she seeks to use heavily saturated colours. She then adjusts light and dark spots using Photoshop to ensure the resulting image is balanced and vibrant. Finally, she prints the retouched image onto sheets of acetate. For this installation Redding's work uses the window box as a space in which to capture the intangible nature of light and colour she seeks in her work. The piece consists of reducing the window with frosted glass to a "portal". Suspended beyond the glass are four framed acetate prints of her cultivated imagery, staggered about 6" apart and back-lit. The resulting installation is viewed through the portal hole through which one can experience the abstract colours and textures, illuminated in what she calls a "3d light painting". There is something inherently alluring about a portal that reveals a three dimensional space. The resulting imagery is comparable to the infinity of outer space or the micro-universe of a cell.

Redding cites her experience on the OCADU Florence exchange as her inspiration for her processed based practice consumed with light. She recalls the immersion into a culture

so heavily inundated with history, which inspired her to react opposingly. Florence is a city still dominated by its national historical roots, boasting grand architecture and fine art collections composed of traditional materials such as marble and wood, and imagery created with oil on panel and canvas. The sheer substantiality of it all, its weight, both historically and physically inspired in her a desire to capture the ethereal, the weightless, the luminescent and timeless.

Her mediums are light, colour, and space. Her process is an exploration in cultivating and making intangible qualities tangible. The abstract imagery depicted through a portal invites the viewer into the illusionistic space created by layers of abstracted, light and colour. Redding states her intention is to leave the concept ambiguous. The meaning is indefinite, and open, ideally to inspire in viewers a range of experiences not hindered by concrete subject matter. Experience and sensation should invoke wonder, memory and stimulation in the viewer.

Redding's work demands a presence, an interaction with its physical incarnation in time and space. She creates art of experience, and of beauty that demands no prior knowledge or understanding from its viewer. Her work maintains the importance of process and temporality, and requires an audience to keep the "experience" of art alive.

- Jessica Baldanza