SUMMER SOLSTICE at SILO CITY

Friday, June 21
2019
Nowhere on Earth

Avye Alexandres
(Buffalo, NY)

Nowhere on Earth redirects viewers’ vision outwards into the spaces that surround us. Mirrors, gathered from residences in the greater Buffalo area, have been installed around the Malt House. As one passes each mirror, portions of buildings, land, and sky appear. Each vantage point creates a new composition that exists only for a moment, functioning as a live photograph. With each advancing hour, a new landscape, a new sunset, is rendered in the frame. Together, the mirrors and the buildings form an ever-changing collage of a place and time exactly here, but exactly not. Eventually even the mirrors themselves will change as the silver particles behind the glass begin to cloud and antique from the elements. As the rectangular boundaries dissolve, the images in the reflection will recede back into the texture of the buildings.

Solis

Michael Camillaci and Sara Svisco
(Rochester, NY and Buffalo, NY)

Solis, like the sun’s rays, bleeds into the Malt House entryway to form a dynamic field of strings that focuses movement and attention towards the building’s windows. The installation radiates from the windows, delineating which areas are intended for walking and which are intended for observing. Solis is most fully realized when an observer stands directly in front of the central south-facing window and looks up to see a field of rays originating from the sun—framed by both the window and the focal point of the installation. At this point in the installation, the symmetrical curvature of each group reflects the sun’s parabolic movement across the sky throughout the year.

A Millimeter of Space

Justina Dziama
(Buffalo, NY)

A Millimeter of Space approaches the Perot Grain Elevator and Malt House as ruins in a post-industrial landscape. The exterior of each structure serves as a record of material transformations resulting from a lack of human intervention since the site was closed decades ago. The surface deterioration is captured in a series of hyperphysical castings fabricated from latex. Once removed, the castings forms sheets that reveal a palimpsest bearing the physical traces of continuously changing environmental conditions. The sheets are hung inside the Silo, where they function as a series of screens or shrouds directing the viewer to reexamine their own relationship with the site and the history it represents.
**speculations ± remuneration**  
 **Brandon Giessmann**  
 (Calgary, Alberta CA)

*speculations ± remuneration* explores the existence of queer bodies inside spaces of industry and labor like Silo City. The project disperses textual interventions throughout the site, considering what navigating such hypermasculine spaces as a queer employee might have felt like. The text is composed of a reflective material, mirroring both the historic environment and the contemporary individuals visiting the space. The text oscillates between visible and invisible as it reflects its surroundings, mimicking the colors and features of both the machinery and the architecture of Silo City. As audience members wander through the space, the text is revealed or concealed based on the shifting sunlight; the changing point-of-view produces an individual experience that is entirely dependent on how someone moves through the space and when they do so.

**Hems**  
 **Landon Moreis**  
 (Attica, NY)

American industry produces huge amounts of products that have no use once consumers deem them unfashionable. After witnessing the social, environmental, and economic injustices of mass production at an apparel factory in China, Landon Moreis decided to focus on these issues by creating artwork from recycled textiles; the raw material for *Hems* is the most ubiquitous American garment, a basic jersey knit t-shirt. All of the t-shirts are recycled by dissecting them into their base construction components: side seam, torso, collar, and sleeve. Moreis stitches the fragments into rings that are united to form continuous spirals that appear to float from windows. The fabric coils recall the elaborate machinery that once inhabited the Malt House, as well as swirling dust illuminated by sunbeams that stream through the western windows. Because of their placement, the color and texture of the fabric will shift over time recording the sun’s movement across the installation.

**Untitled (Solstice Field)**  
 **rhizomedas xxx: a design collective**  
 (Philadelphia, PA)

On the longest day of the year, visitors to Silo City will encounter a field of translucent pennants that come to life through interaction and play. Each movement through the installation creates a kaleidoscope of colorful light and shadows resulting in a series of double images that shift as the sun traces its course. No two visitors experience this environment in the same way. *Untitled (Solstice Field)* invites visitors to participate in an active interaction where they can alter the space, color, and light of Silo City. Interacting with the installation produces a collaborative moment between the viewer, the architecture, and the sun, each time drawing new configurations of light and shadow.
Buffalo Arts Studio is committed to creating cultural connections in our community through exhibitions, public art, and educational programs. This project engages the unique Silo City environment while also supporting the exploration of new materials, media, and installation possibilities. All of the artwork is site-specific and takes into special consideration the changing sunlight that moves over and across Silo City on the longest day of the year. All six installation will remain at Silo City, enduring or deteriorating as part of the living arts and architectural experience embedded in this reclaimed industrial site.

Both Buffalo Arts Studio and Silo City have a long history of supporting the creation of innovative, site-specific visual, performing, and literary artwork. Buffalo Arts Studio Summer Solstice at Silo City provides audiences the opportunity to experience art, architecture, and the environment in new and meaningful ways.

For more information, visit [www.buffaloartsstudio.org](http://www.buffaloartsstudio.org)