

GAA GALLERY

PATRICE APHRODITE HELMAR - ADAM AND EVE WERE ASTRONAUTS

At the turn of the last Century, Helmar's late father buried a time capsule in an Igloo cooler in her family's backyard in Alaska. Y2K had everyone holding their breath as to how the world might change. Would computers shut down? Would chaos ensue?

The capsule was discovered and dug up in 2020, containing a Blockbuster card, marbles, human hair, plastic toys from the 1920s to 1980s, photographs taken in 1999, party hats, a pair of reading glasses, coins, among others. These items, carefully chosen to be preserved and carried through time, map Umberto Eco's proposal, "that every cultural phenomenon may be studied as communication."

Comprised of a performance, a map of artifacts, and a related display of objects, Adam and Eve Were Astronauts, arranges the objects from the time capsule in a study of semiotics, object permanence, and cultural artifact. Handmade paintings of the artifacts created in 2021 and dirt collected at the time of excavation, echo notions of site, and the resonance of objects. In this installation, transmissions from the past are received in the present and projected into the future. In displaying these objects and contextualizing them through an installation, Helmar and her father reveal the importance of symbols and artifacts that a society can knowingly or unknowingly leave behind.



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar

Adam and Eve Were Astronauts, 2020-2021

Site-specific installation including tarp, dirt, mirrors, time capsule, photographs, human hair, marbles, and toys

Dimensions variable



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar

Top, 2021

Acrylic on aluminum

20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar

Worry Beads, Soldier, 2021

Acrylic on aluminum

20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar

Old Gold, 2021

Acrylic on aluminum

20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar

Cops, money, booze, _ bullet, 2021

Acrylic on aluminum

20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar

Medicine _ Marbles, 2021

Acrylic on aluminum

20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar

Glass Baubles, 2021

Acrylic on aluminum

20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in

GAA GALLERY



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar
Coffee can, coral _ eagle feather, 2021
Acrylic on aluminum
30.5 x 20 cm / 12 x 8 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar
Horse, Pawn, Die, 2021
Acrylic on aluminum
30.5 x 20 cm / 12 x 8 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar
Juneau Young, 2021
Acrylic on aluminum
30.5 x 20 cm / 12 x 8 in

Patrice Aphrodite Helmar (b. 1981, Juneau, Alaska) is a photographer, curator, installation artist and a current visiting professor at Pratt Institute and Columbia University. Helmar's work has appeared widely, including exhibitions at the Jewish Museum, National Museum of Iceland, Houston Center for Photography, New York Photo Festival, BOSI Contemporary, Fisher Landau Center, Judith Charles Gallery, and the Anchorage Museum. Helmar was a nominee for the Rema Hort Mann, Gordon Parks Prize, and Henri Cartier Bresson Award and a recipient of a Rasmuson Foundation Fellowship. Her work is included in public and private collections including the Centre Pompidou Library, Rasmuson Foundation, Juneau Douglas City Museum, Duke University, and the Barnard Zine Library.

GAA GALLERY



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar

Adam and Eve Were Astronauts, 2020-2021

Site-specific installation including tarp, dirt, mirrors, time capsule, photographs, human hair, marbles, and toys

Dimensions variable

GAA GALLERY



GAA GALLERY





Patrice Aphrodite Helmar

Top, 2021

Acrylic on aluminum

20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar
Worry Beads, Soldier, 2021
Acrylic on aluminum
20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar
Old Gold, 2021
Acrylic on aluminum
20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in

GAA GALLERY



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar
Cops, money, booze, _bullet, 2021
Acrylic on aluminum
20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar
Medicine _ Marbles, 2021
Acrylic on aluminum
20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar
Glass Baubles, 2021
Acrylic on aluminum
20 x 30.5 cm / 8 x 12 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar
Horse, Pawn, Die, 2021
Acrylic on aluminum
30.5 x 20 cm / 12 x 8 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar
Juneau Young, 2021
Acrylic on aluminum
30.5 x 20 cm / 12 x 8 in



Patrice Aphrodite Helmar
Coffee can, coral _ eagle feather, 2021
Acrylic on aluminum
30.5 x 20 cm / 12 x 8 in