

Karen Chu

Flux



Shredded No. 2 24" x 60" acrylic and oil on linen 2013

June 22 – July 27, 2013

Artist's reception: Saturday, June 22, 7 – 10 pm,

L2kontemporary is proud to present *Flux*, a continuation of the visual examination of objects and images in space by Los Angeles based artist Karen Chu.

In *Flux*, Chu's investigation of objects and images that catch her interest starts by creating the personal structures for her visual vocabulary. The exhibition consists of several directions that are approached as examinations of visual spatial organization. In order to best explore these ideas in multiple directions, Chu refuses to be restricted to any single medium. This leads to the creation of collages on panel, paintings on linen, as well as ceramic and mixed media sculptures. The underlying visual connections between all of the various mediums Chu uses, however, remains consistent. Her penchant for hard crisp edges, along with meticulous attention to the volumes and voids that are existent both inside and outside of the images and objects, all help sharpen and inform the spatial explorations of relationships between forms.

In her Excavation series, Chu has carefully chiseled, grinded, and chipped clay and glaze accidents and incidentals from the kilns of USC for incorporation into her collages and mixed media sculptures. Although purely accidental, these excavated finds have become intentional focal points. The Shredded series, on the other hand, begins with images of shredded paper or cardboard, and through macro examination they are transformed into abstract strokes of lines and colors on the linen surface. And the Hollow series is largely influenced by organic structures. The hollowed-out, faceted and undulating ceramic sculptures are reminiscent of cell structures, radiolarians, and close-ups of sponges, yet at the same time they exhibit an architectural aesthetic.

Each work is an investigation in the building of a personal vocabulary that is continuously evolving and in a constant state of flux.