



Golden Conversion

March 16 – April 28, 2018

Opening reception, Friday March 16, 6-9pm.

CAPITAL is proud to present *Golden Conversion* a solo exhibition with Jennifer West.

In a time when communication is expressed through character gestures, as opposed to written language, emoji are intended to illustrate, or in some cases replace altogether, the words we send each other digitally, whether in a text message, email, or tweet. Quick, gestural, and disposable these icons exist as a digital index. One would hardly think of film as a medium to counteract and deconstruct this language.

Los Angeles artist Jennifer West has been making experimental films consistently since 2004. West is known for her digitized films that are made by hand manipulating film celluloid through performative and conceptual practices. For this exhibition West creates a massive film wall composed of manipulated 70mm filmstrips, these patterned sections are slashed, stapled, caked with cat litter and salt, marked with inks, dyes, spray paint and white-out. In addition, small emoji and words populate sections within the film frames, making horizontal, vertical or diagonal lines.

Also included in the exhibition is a new 35mm film, which West refers to as a "historical document" compiled from Google image search results for emoji. This film, shot initially in 2014, was placed in large kombucha jars filled with urine. West collected the liquid from artists and friends within her community, which she used to soak and corrode the celluloid, slowly eating away at the films emulsion. The film was then transferred to digitized HD video.

Jennifer West (lives and works in Los Angeles, California). Solo exhibitions include, *Is Film Over?* Yuz Museum, Shanghai, China; *Action Movies, Painted Films and History Collage*, Man Museum, Nouro, Sardinia, Italy; *Film is Dead...* Seattle Art Museum, *Flashlight Filmstrip Projections*, Tramway, Glasgow, Scotland. In addition she completed a feature film for ICA London's *Art Night* in July of 2016 and presented an installation as part of Whitney Museum's *Dreamlands* at Microscope Gallery in Brooklyn.

Other significant commissions include PICA TBA Festival, Portland, 2014, High Line Art, New York, 2012, The Aspen Art Museum, 2010 and the Turbine Hall at Tate Modern, 2009. West has exhibited widely in museums and art institutions internationally including: Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburg; Kunstlerhaus Graz, Austria; Cincinnati Art Museum, Ohio; Palais de Tokyo, Paris; Nottingham Contemporary, UK; Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt; CAPC, Bordeaux, France; Drawing Center, New York and ZKM Museum for New Media, Karlsruhe. She has been artist in residence at the Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center (EMPAC) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, and the MIT List Visual Arts Center in Cambridge, MA.

West has produced eleven Zine style artist books that she gives away at her exhibitions and her writing has appeared in Artforum, Frieze and Mousse Magazine. She received her MFA from Art Center in Pasadena and her BA from the Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. She has lectured widely on her ideas of the "Analogital" and is Associate Professor of the Practice of Fine Arts at USC's Roski School of Art and Design in Los Angeles.