

Bronwyn Katz
Salvaged Letter

November 15, 2019 – January 10, 2020
Opening Friday, November 15, 6–8PM

Peres Projects is pleased to present *Salvaged Letter*, Bronwyn Katz's first exhibition at the gallery. The exhibition serves as a continuation of Katz's interest in the creation of systems of notation which gesture to lost ancestral language and potential imagined languages. For the exhibition Katz collaborates with words from a 1928 statement made by !Ora language activist Benjamin Kats.

Ta a-b kobab ada k xu-da, ti khoe-du'e!
'Do not let our language be lost from us, you my people!'
(Benjamin Kats)

Katz attempts to retain the words of Benjamin Kats by creating codes with her salvaged materials, which aim to support and affirm individual words from the statement. The formal qualities of these codes are largely influenced by Katz's existing artistic language. Through the creation of these codes/visual forms realised as sculptures and installation Katz offers an alternative mode of preserving, reading and understanding language. Katz's work on excavating communal history and the recognition of diverse forms of expression is crucial for the rebuilding of a South African archive and reclaiming what was assumed to be lost or destroyed.

Incorporating sculpture, installation, video and performance, Bronwyn Katz's practice engages with concepts of mapping, loss, memory and language relative to land and culture. Often using found materials as the departure point for her works, Katz's approach to making is driven foremost by formal concerns such as composition and line, expressed in an abstract minimalist language. Conceptually, her sculptures refer to the political context of their making, embodying subtle acts of resistance that draw attention to the social constructions and boundaries that continue to define those spaces.

Bronwyn Katz (b.1993) graduated with a BFA from the University of Cape Town in 2015 and was awarded the Simon Gerson Prize. Katz's oeuvre incorporates sculpture, installation, video and performance. Recent solo exhibitions include at the Palais de Tokyo curated by Marie Ann-Yemsi, and blank projects in Cape Town. Katz has also participated in numerous group exhibitions, including at Peres Projects, Berlin; 15th Lyon Biennale, curated by Le Palais de Tokyo and its team of curators: Adélaïde Blanc, Daria de Beauvais, Yoann Gourmel, Matthieu Lelièvre, Vittoria Matarrese, Claire Moulène, Hugo Vitrani; the Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden (MACAAL) in Marrakesh curated by Meriem Berrada; and the 12th Dak'Art Biennale directed by Simon Njami. In 2020 Katz will participate in the 22nd Sydney Biennale directed by Brook Andrew.

Peres Projects is open Monday through Friday, 11 am – 6pm. For further information and sales inquiries, please contact Javier Peres (jp@peresprojects.com), Nick Koenigsknecht (nick@peresprojects.com) or call at +49 (0) 30 275 950770. For press and media inquiries, please contact media@peresprojects.com or +49 (0) 30 275 950770.