

THE NINE RULES OF TREMULATION

CURATED BY DANIEL BIRNBAUM & JACQUI DAVIES

OCTOBER 14 2024 - JANUARY 15 2025



THE NINE RULES OF TREMULATION

CURATED BY DANIEL BIRNBAUM & JACQUI DAVIES

OCTOBER 14 2024 - JANUARY 15 2025

Karla Black - Tony Cokes - Thea Djordjadze - Trisha Donnelly - Marcel Duchamp - Cerith Wyn Evans - Spencer Finch - Shilpa Gupta - Veronika Hapchenko - Anne Imhof - Emily Kraus - Alicja Kwade - Nam June Paik - Iris Touliatou - Nobuko Tsuchiya - Anicka Yi

N O NAME

In his book On Tremulation published in 1719, Emanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772) envisioned a cosmos in which everything-including seemingly solid objects - vibrates. From this theory, Swedenborg edicted nine rules on how any entity trembles. Swedenborg discussed the importance that vibrations (or tremulations) play in the world, from earthquakes to music. Swedenborg places particular emphasis on the role of tremulations in our biological make-up (the beating of our hearts and pulsing of our nerves) and upon our sense perception (sound waves, light waves). Everything vibrates. Swedenborg was a scientist, philosopher and mystic who influenced major writers and artists across the world, including Blake, Goethe, Baudelaire, Balzac, Borges, Daumal and the Surrealists.

This exhibition, which includes works by sixteen artists, uses his "Nine Rules of Tremulation" as a schema to explore forms of dissemination and coagulation. Reflections, shadows, echoes, and replicas are important themes in the show, as are methods of transmissions and forms of vibration and trembling. An emphasis on the multisensory agency of things-artworks as well as technical artefact-creates spaces of reflection and ambience that rid our thinking of the obsession with the historically overemphasized relationship between a perceiving subject and a known object. Other equally productive relationships between agents-synthetic or organic - can emerge.

This exhibition at No Name forms part of the on-going project Tremulations, initiated by Daniel Birnbaum & Jacqui Davies at the Swedenborg House in London last year. The project involves cinematic and literary events in many cities produced in collaboration with members of the Swedish Academy's Nobel Committee.