

# GLADSTONE GALLERY

## **Allora & Calzadilla**

### *Fault Lines*

515 West 24th Street, New York

September 13 – October 11, 2014

Opening September 13, performances from 12:30 – 7:30 pm

Gladstone Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition by Allora & Calzadilla. *Fault Lines* will explore the overlapping mechanics of polyphonic vocal texturing, geological and sculptural displacements, and adversarial rhetorical language in a new performance-based work, featuring an original composition by Guarionex Morales-Matos. The work will feature performances by young male vocalists from the American Boychoir School and the Transfiguration Boychoir. The performances will take place on the hour Tuesday through Friday from 1 – 5 pm with an additional performance at 5:30 pm, and Saturdays hourly from 12:30 – 5:30 pm.

*Fault Lines* consists of a group of ten stone sculptures whose formal vocabulary derives from geological faults – fractures or discontinuities in the Earth's crust – and choral risers, a set of tall and wide steps used for standing while singing. While the mineral composition of the rocks in *Fault Lines* took millions of years to assemble, cutting, removing, and displacing sections of their hardened mass has caused an instant and ever-lasting rupture in geological time. The resulting sculptural permutations function as choral risers, which are dispersed throughout the exhibition space and used by two boy sopranos, or trebles, to engage in a verbal duel.

Trebles are known for their beautiful yet ephemeral vocal range that is subject to the inevitable effects of the dropping of the larynx, known colloquially as the “breaking of the voice.” Impermanence haunts the life of the treble's voice. Its unique color, tone, and sound are limited by time. For *Fault Lines*, the artists have dug into the historical strata of adversarial language, excavating incendiary provocations from Cicero to Shakespeare, to contemporary political and literary figures alike, testing the functional power of these utterances, and taking note of their distinctive contours, shapes and marks. At the same time, the two boy sopranos re-animate these verbal forms of conflict in a carefully choreographed musical duel/duet where the voice escapes the letter, allowing the musical texture to take precedent over the word's intelligibility. *Fault Lines* explores the complex mechanics of the voice produced in the space between the body and speech, between pure sonority and linguistic meaning.

Lacan considered insults a primary form of social interaction, central to the imaginary order. At once antisocial and crucial for human relations, both divisive and unifying, insults can be seen as signs of fissures in social and political civility that give rise to turmoil and conflict. *Fault Lines* tries to rehearse and recuperate these forms of anxiety in a public setting through a performative experiment which bears witness to the cracks that break open when geology, the voice, and emotion are put under stress.

*Fault Lines* is performed by:

American Boychoir School (Orion Bloomfield, Douglas Butler, Harry Carter, Evan Corn, Simon Gutierrez, Mak Orafidiya, Ryan Percarpio, Jonathan Pollison, Kei Sakano, Dante Soriano, and Daniel Voigt. Myles Glancy–Tour Manager, Kerry Heimann–President, Fernando Malvar-Ruiz–Litton-Lodal Music Director, Christie Starrett–General Manager)

Transfiguration Boychoir (Brogan Donston, Rabindranath Felix, Richard Jimenez, Charles Rosario, Miles Simon, Carlos Tapia, Jorge Tapia, Asher Yin, and Enlun Yin. Claudia Dumschat–Choirmaster, Richard Olson–Staging Consultant)

### **Jack Smith**

#### ***Theater and Performance Works***

12 Rue du Grand Cerf, Brussels

September 12 – November 1, 2014

For further information, please contact Ariel Hudes

+1 212 206 9300 or ahudes@gladstonegallery.com

New York gallery hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10am – 6pm

Brussels gallery hours: Tuesday – Friday, 10am – 6pm, Saturday, 12pm – 6pm