James Herman

Glass Island Studio

April 22 - May 27, 2017

The works featured in *Glass Island Studio* focus on the ways in which we inhabit space and the natural environment. Drawing inspiration from craft-based, vernacular architecture and modernism, Herman uses found materials to create functional spaces. His multidisciplinary practice utilizes nature play, formalism, and the assemblage of found and ready-made materials to create architectural and sculptural works. Herman's processes, materials, and language explore a transformative and investigative way of existing that are applicable to both the worlds of sculptural art and of formal architectural design.

A strong thread running throughout Herman's work is an innate value of labor. His Glass Island Studio, in the hills of east Los Angeles, is an ongoing investigative approach to accessible, hands-on construction that emphasizes ingenuity, sustainability and independence. Herman's reliance on found materials, and his ability to live and create work from within a building of his own construction, informs the ease and accessibility of the works' material process in *Glass Island Studio*.

Many components of his practice exist in a way that doesn't destroy their innate value or formal function. This modularity and expandability strengthens the works' resolve to exist in ways that are both sustainable and functional while maintaining sculptural integrity.

James Herman was born in Denver, Colorado in 1985. He lives and works in Los Angeles, California. Herman attended the Yale Norfolk Summer School of Art in 2010. Nestucca Spit Press published his book Driftwood Forts of the Oregon Coast in April 2014. Recent exhibitions include A Call to Place: The first five years of the Frontier Fellowship, Rio Gallery, Salt Lake City, US; On Landscape #2, Matéria, Rome, IT; CONVERGENCE, Cabrillo National Monument, Point Loma, CA, US; Aged Aquarius, The Henry Ford Museum, Detroit, Michigan, US; and Yellow, White, or Grey, Ditch Projects, Springfield, Oregon, US.

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