

A photograph of a wooden structure, possibly a screen or a partition, with vertical slats. The wood has a prominent grain and a warm, brownish-orange hue. The slats are spaced apart, creating a series of narrow vertical openings. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the wood.

Nate Young

But not yet: in the spirit of linguistics

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7 February – 28 March 2015

This publication was created on the occasion of Nate Young's 2015 solo exhibition at moniquemeloche.

moniquemeloche

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Nate Young is interested in highlighting systems and forms at play that create the transcendent and cerebral experience of knowledge formation and the impartation of truth and greater understanding. Young's conceptual practice allows him to move fluidly between different mediums, often conflating multiple subjects and material. In this body of work, the artist combines language and signifiers with graphite and paper to create deliberately worked diagrammatic drawings that are austere and poetic. Young derives his inspiration from Swiss linguist and semiotician Ferdinand de Saussure and his father's theological background. This combination of lucid materials and abstruse concepts identifies the space between language and cognition, the signifier and the signified; articulating the connection between. This moment of cognition is further amplified by the inclusion of a distinct, codified language that is an extension of post-structuralism, informed by religious doctrine.

In semiotic theory, the sign has a meaning other than itself, which communicates information once decoded. For Young, this symbol is an opportunity to challenge our understanding of form and meaning. The series *Diagrams with my Father* is created through the appropriation of theological diagrams from the elder Young's teachings, combined with symbols that carry a particular weight in the artist's visual lexicon. The combination of authoritative marks of the scholar and artist conflates the absoluteness of religious word and language itself, resulting in a system of floating signifiers that weaves a thread through Young's broader practice. Through the removal of information that would serve to proselytize the audience, Young presents a framework for the articulation of a doctrine focused on the system. The inclusion of the oak wood frame creates a further context through which the viewer must navigate and make connections. For Young, these strategies serve to challenge the authenticity of larger systems at play.

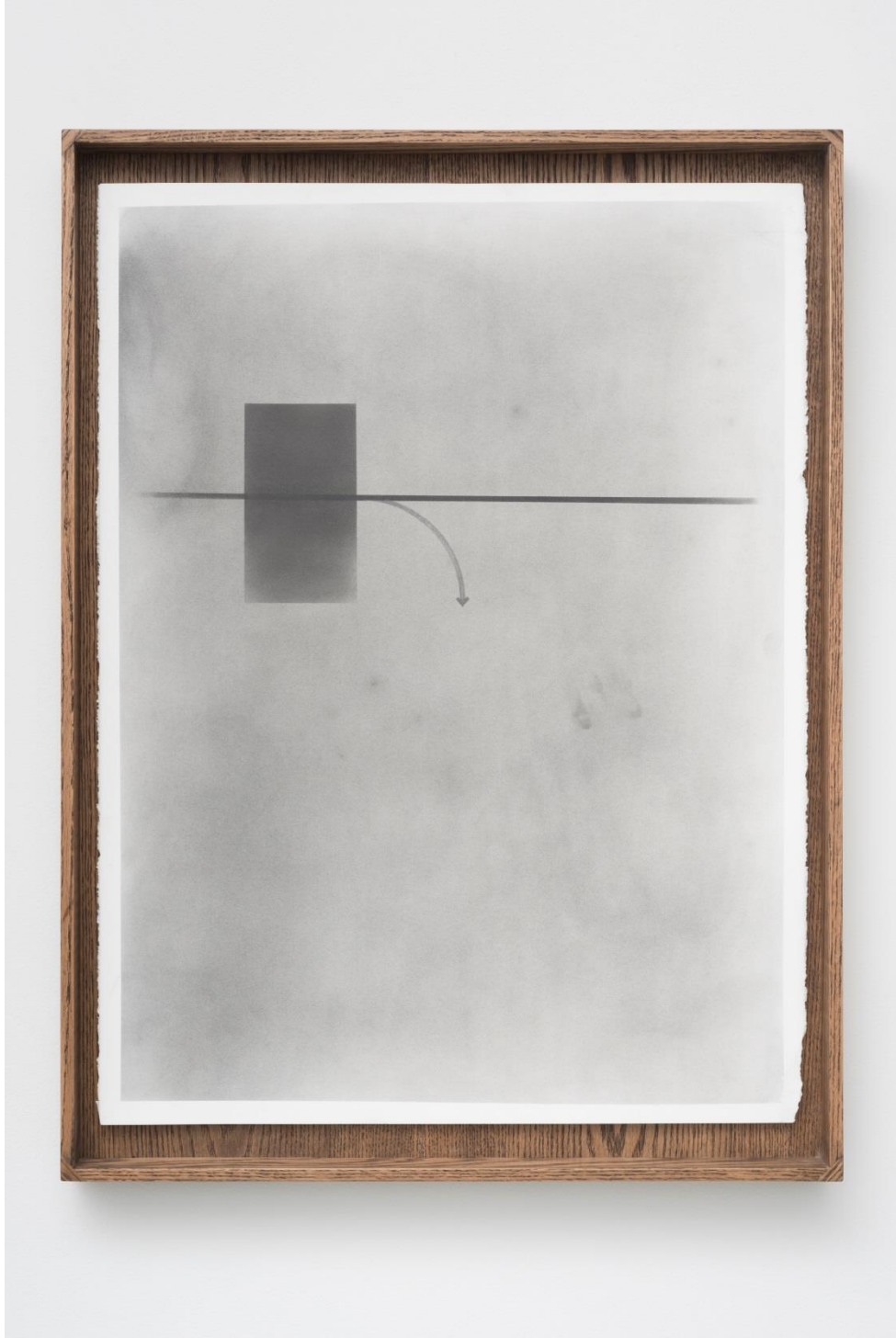
God, dog, a diptych, provides a further glimpse into the binary system Young complicates. Consistent shifts occur as the eye scans the surface of the drawings, traversing the distance between truth, religion, language, and mark-making. Slowly, the words *form*, *void*, *dog*, *god*, *WORD*, and *word*, begin to assemble on the paper, slightly obfuscated by a coat of loose graphite that has been rubbed into the grain. The resultant body of work suggests a conversation between the two, and the opportunity for new forms to emerge.



Installation view, moniquemeloche



Untitled Diagram No. 15 from *Diagrams with my Father*, 2014
Graphite on paper in artist made oak frame
33 x 24 ½ x 2 ½ inches



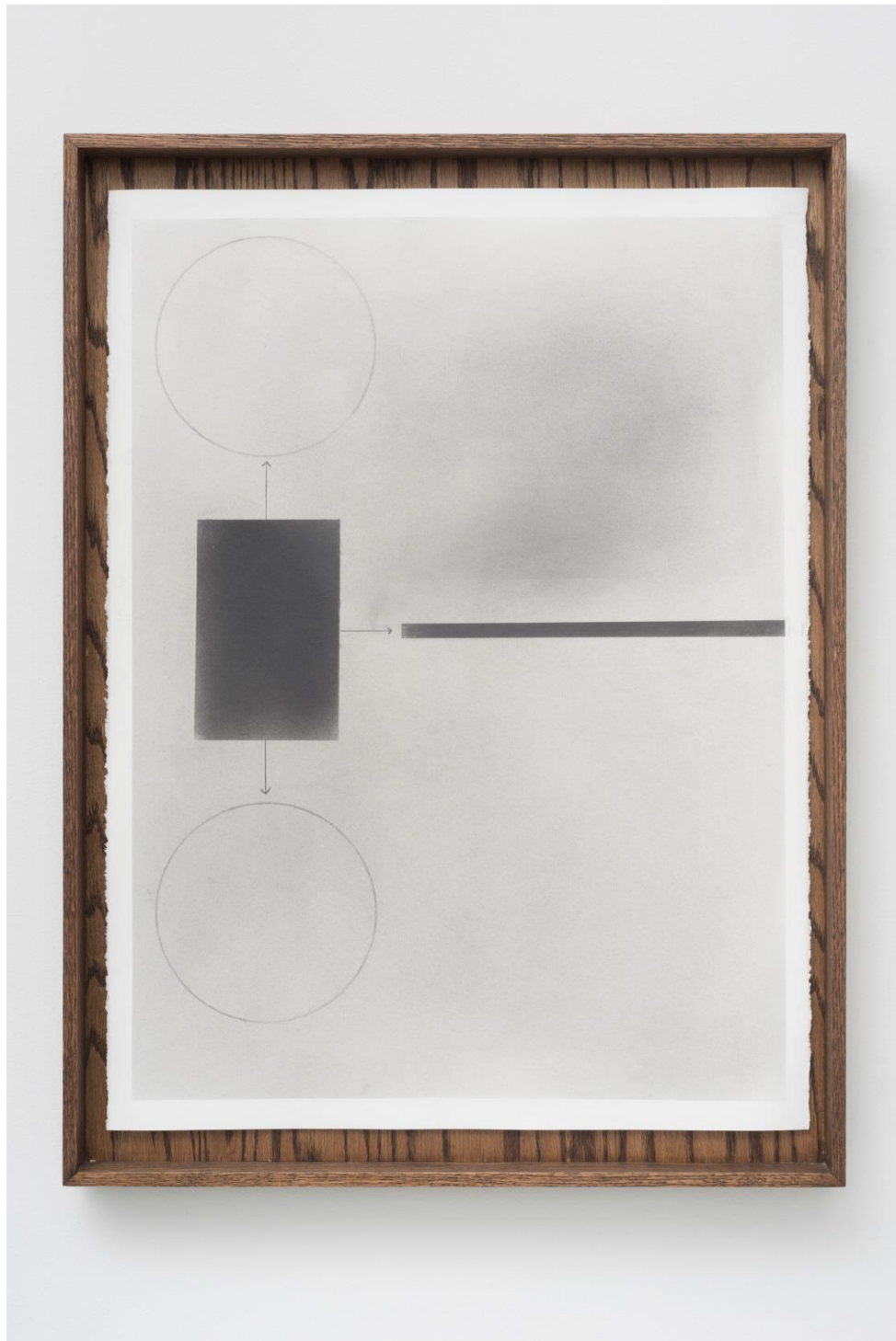
Untitled Diagram No. 14 from *Diagrams with my Father*, 2014
Graphite on paper in artist made oak frame
33 x 24 ½ x 2 ½ inches



Untitled Diagram No. 12 from *Diagrams with my Father*, 2014
Graphite on paper in artist made oak frame
33 x 24 ½ x 2 ½ inches



Untitled Diagram No. 11 from *Diagrams with my Father*, 2014
Graphite on paper in artist made oak frame
33 x 24 ½ x 2 ½ inches



Untitled Diagram No. 8 from *Diagrams with my Father*, 2014
Graphite on paper in artist made oak frame
33 x 24 ½ x 2 ½ inches



Untitled (Pulpit No. 1), 2014

Oak

42 ½ x 19 ¾ x 15 ¾ inches overall

10 tablets: 12 ½ x 12 ½ x ¾ inches





Untitled (Altar No. 1) and Untitled (Pulpit No. 1) installation view



Untitled (Altar No. 1), 2015

Graphite on paper in artist made oak frame

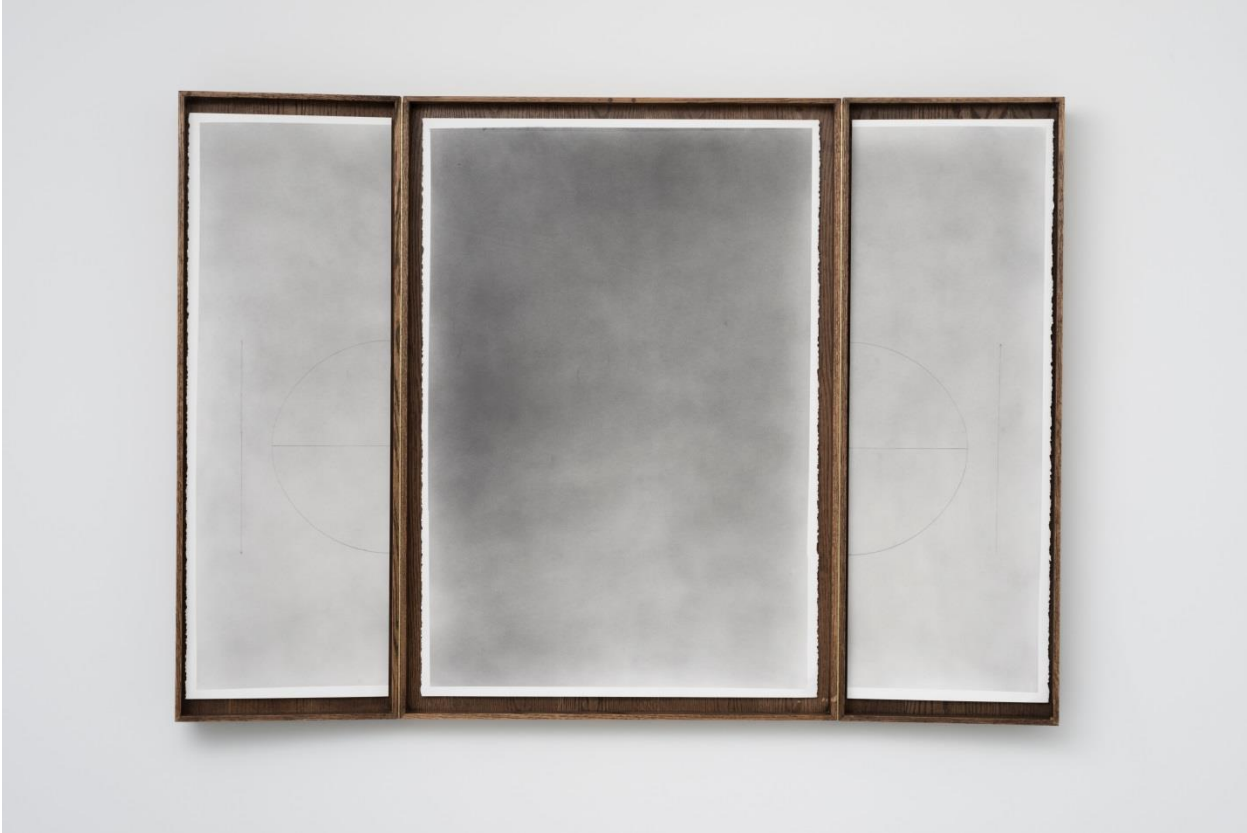
Closed: 47 x 33 x 5 ½

Partial open: 47 x 38 ½ x 19 ½

Fully open: 47 x 66 ½ x 2 ½









Installation view, moniquemeloche



god, dog, 2014

Graphite on paper in artist made oak frame, oak wood stools

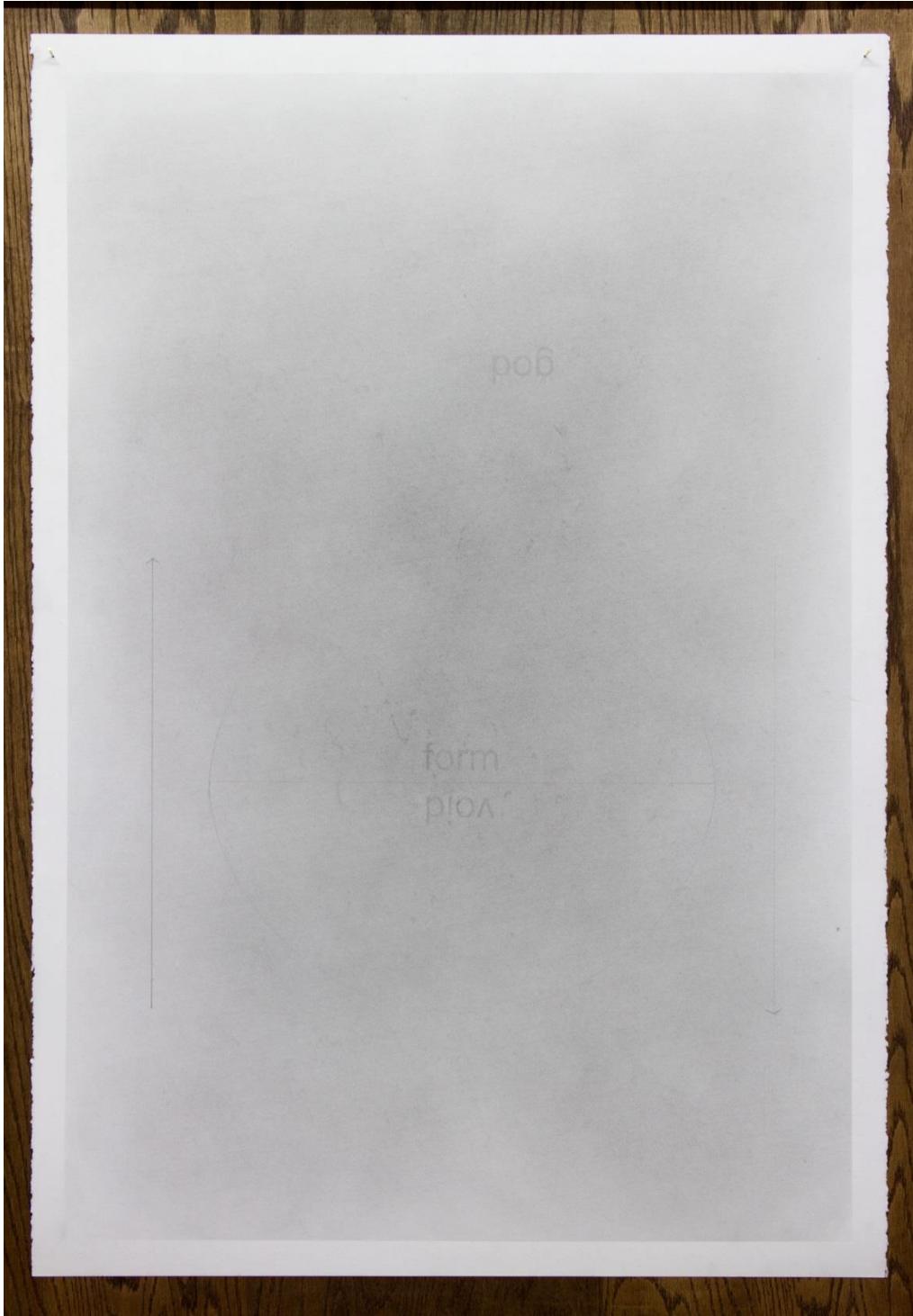
4 parts

Drawings: 48 x 36 inches each

Stools: 15 x 12 x 12 inches each

Overall: 62 x 70 x 16 inches





god, dog, (detail)



Untitled (Altar No. 2), 2015
Graphite on paper in artist made oak frame
Closed: 47 x 33 x 5 ½ inches
Partial open: 47 x 38 ½ x 19 ½
Fully open: 47 x 66 ½ x 2 ½

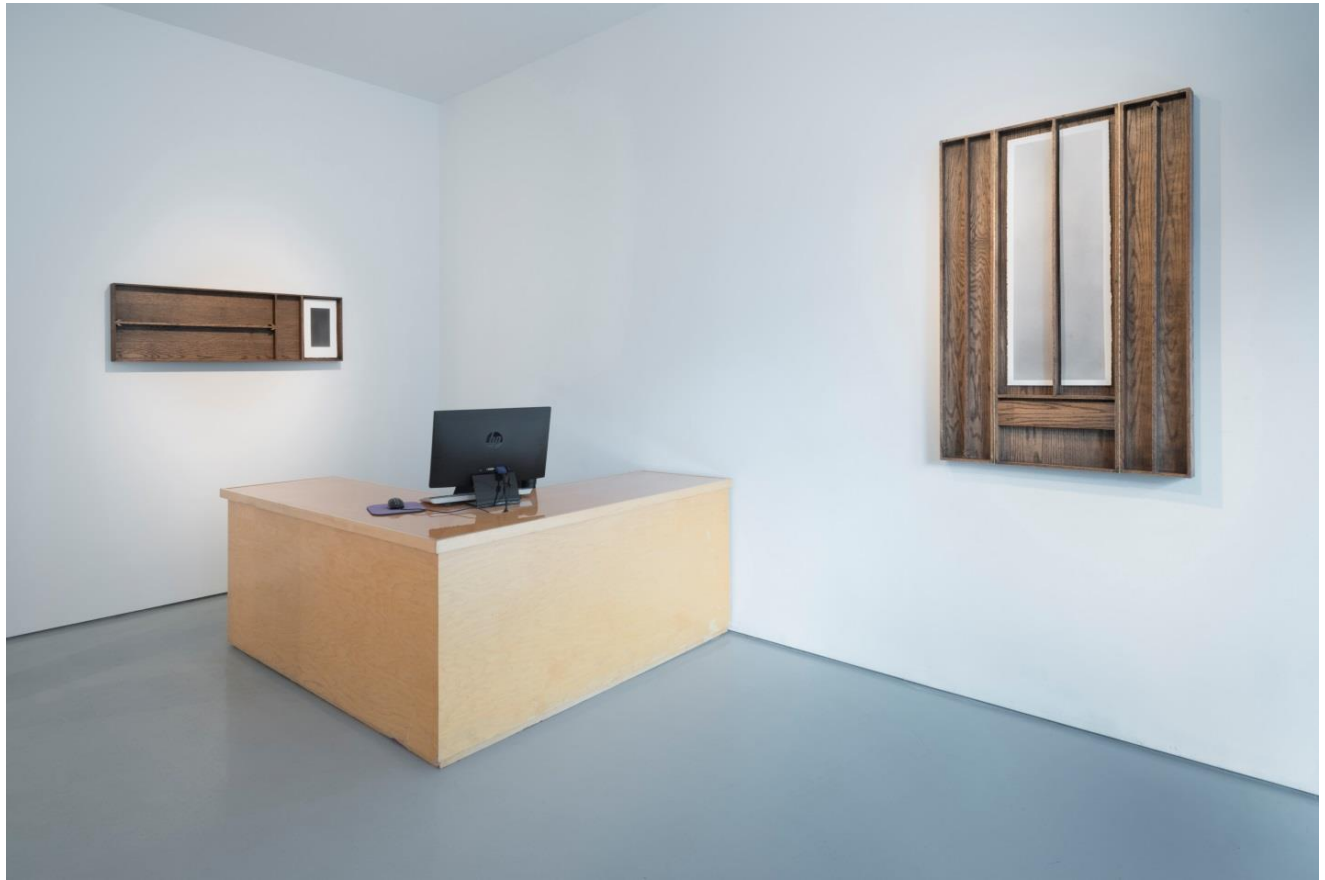








Untitled (Timeline), 2015
Graphite on paper in artist made oak frame
15 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 48 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches



Installation view, moniquemeloche



Installation view, moniquemeloche



Untitled (Pulpit Rubbings), 2014
Graphite on paper in artist made oak frame
48 x 48 x 2 ½ inches

NATE YOUNG

b. 1981, lives in St. Paul, MN

Education

- 2009 Master of Fine Arts, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA
- 2009 Residency, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME
- 2004 B.A. Visual Arts Education, Northwestern College, Saint Paul, MN

Solo/Two Person Exhibitions

- 2015 Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia, PA
But not yet: in the spirit of linguistics, moniquemeloché, Chicago, IL
- 2014 *Rehearsals*, Bethel University, Arden Hills, MN
Tony Lewis, Nate Young, Room East, New York, NY
- 2013 *Joy*, The Suburban, Oak Park, IL
- 2012 *How to Make a Slave/ How to Make a God*, Fluxx Gallery, Des Moines, IA
- 2011 *Postracializationalism*, The XYandZ, Minneapolis, MN
- 2009 *The Wrath of the Math*, Lime Gallery, Valencia, CA
- 2008 *Drawings on the Process of Ingestion and Regurgitation*, Main Gallery, Valencia, CA

Group Exhibitions

- 2014 *Retreat* (curated by Theaster Gates), Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, IL
Jerome Fellows Exhibition, Mpls. College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN
Double Plus Good, Tuck Under Projects, Minneapolis, MN
Live Work Make Create, Kathrine Nash Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
- 2013 The Soap Factory, Minneapolis, MN
Works on Paper, Burnett Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
- 2012 *Fore*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY
Go Tell it on the Mountain, California African Am Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Body Word and Image, Drake University, Des Moines, IA
Authenticity, Untitled Projects, Los Angeles, CA
The Critics Show, Hopkins Art Center, Hopkins, MN
- 2011 *Monster Drawing Rally*, Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis, MN
Anthology (Participant), PS1 MOMA, New York, NY
- 2010 *The Smell of God*, Obsidian Arts, Minneapolis, MN
The Road To Hell is Paved, La Cienega Projects, Los Angeles, CA
- 2009 *Goo*, Denler Gallery, St. Paul, MN
Study of Gratification and Restraint No. 2 (video screening), Redact, Los Angeles, CA
Why Theory, Spring Arts Tower, Los Angeles, CA
- 2008 *Mid Res*, D301, Valencia, CA
Changing Ties, Gallery 50, Los Angeles, CA
- 2007 *ONE Show*, Evening Side Gallery, Val Verde, CA

Curatorial Projects

Alternative Exhibition Space, The Bindery Projects, Saint Paul, MN

Speaking Engagements and Events

- 2014 Visiting Artist Lecturer, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN
Visiting Artist Lecturer, Bethel University, Arden Hills, MN
Live Work Create Artist Panel, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
- 2013 Visiting Artist Lecturer, University Of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
- 2012 Visiting Artist Lecturer, Drake University, Des Moines, IA
- 2011 Walker Collectors Council, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN
Wiseman Art Mob, Wiseman Art Museum, Minneapolis, MN
Visiting Artist Lecture Series, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

Speaking Engagements and Events continued

- 2011 Guest Speaker, Saint Cloud State, Saint Cloud, MN
Guest Artist Lecturer, Bethel University, Saint Paul, MN
Artist Talk, The XY and Z Gallery, Minneapolis, MN

Commissions

- 2006 Mural, Chambers Art Hotel, Minneapolis, MN
2005 Mural, Free Spirit Publishing, Minneapolis, MN
2005 Mural, McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis, MN

Fellowships and Awards

- 2014 Knight Arts Challenge, Knight Foundation, Saint Paul, MN
Fellowship, Jerome Foundation, Minneapolis, MN
2011 Cultural Community Collaboration, Minnesota State Arts Board, Minneapolis, MN
2010 Fellowship, Bush Fellowship, Minneapolis, MN

Selected Bibliography

- 2014 *Retreat*, exh. cat., Chicago: Valerie Carberry Gallery and Richard Gray Gallery.
2013 Schouweiler, Sussanah, "Biennial Fail: Making It Make Sense", *Hyperallergic*, October 25.
Abbe, Mary, "Minnesota Biennial features 38 state artists at Soap Factory in Minneapolis", *Star Tribune*, September 12.
Gabler, Jay, ",,,", *ArtForum*, September.
Haber, John, "Is It Post-Black Yet?", *habertarts.com*, February.
2012 *Fore*, exh. cat., New York: The Studio Museum in Harlem.
Cotter, Holland, "Racial Redefinition in Progress: 'Fore' at Studio Museum in Harlem", *New York Times*, November 29.
Lot, Jessica, "Alchemy of Inspiration", art21 Blog, November 20.
Fraser, Paul, "CalArtians at the 'Fore' at Studio Museum in Harlem", *24700*, November 9.
Alexander, Darsie, "Roving Eye: Minneapolis", *Art in America* (online), May 16.
"Minneapolis artist Nate Young at Fluxx", *Art Beacon*, April 11.
2011 Mault, Coco, "Nate Young's 'Postracialization' at XYandZ Gallery," *City Pages*, September 9.

moniquemeloche was founded in October 2000 with an inaugural exhibition titled *Homewrecker* at Meloche's home, and officially opened to the public in May 2001. Working with an international group of emerging artists in all media, the gallery presents conceptually challenging installations in Chicago and at art fairs internationally with an emphasis on curatorial and institutional outreach.

moniquemeloche

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