

GALLERIA RAFFAELLA CORTESE

PRESS RELEASE

HELEN MIRRA



September 26 – November 10, 2013
Tuesday – Saturday 10am - 1pm; 3 - 7:30 pm
And by appointment.

Opening reception Thursday September 26 from 7 to 9 pm

Raffaella Cortese is proud to present, in her spaces at Via Stradella 1 and 7, the solo show by American artist Helen Mirra.

Mirra's pensive installations are formally minimal and made with humble materials, such as wool blankets, raw linen, hand-dyed cotton banding. For the artist, walking is an integral component to all her works. Since 2010, she has been organizing these walks with great attention and precision, as sort of open-ended expeditions in different places of the world. The results take various forms – sometimes printmaking, sometimes writing, sometimes sound recordings. Artists such as Anni Albers, André Cadere, John Cage, Douglas Huebler, and Ree Morton share her orbit. Mirra's habitat is an edge – where logic and geology meet, according to the weather.

On show in via Stradella 7, the *Hourly Field Notes* series from Western Japan, realised during autumn 2012. Each of these works is made with brief texts written through the course of a single day's walking, and each hour is represented by a one meter length of 16mm wide cotton – a slice of the landscape, a partial horizon, a short silent-silent film.

Mirra's most recent *Hourly Directional Field Notations* realised in Arizona in 2012 will be exhibited in both the gallery spaces. These are made over the course of a walking day as a sort of paced printmaking. The activities are interdependent: the walking structures the printing, and the printing impels the walking. The prints were made with watercolor on raw linen, and the size is that of a drop cloth or ground cloth, which when folded, fits in Mirra's backpack. The prints are direct impressions of paradigmatic materials found en route: neither photographic nor descriptive, their geographic location indeterminate, they are nonetheless an insistent sort of fact. Both series of works develop from Mirra's present practice: a cycle of exhibitions in which walking in one region results in a body of work for exhibition and subsequent walking in another. Next Mirra will walk in the Dolomites.

Helen Mirra (Rochester New York 1970) lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She has had solo shows at The Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago, the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the Berkeley Art Museum, the Dallas Museum of Art, and KW Institute for Contemporary Art in Berlin. Recent group shows include the 50th Venice Biennial, the 30th Sao Paulo Biennial and exhibitions at Mudam Luxembourg, MIT List Visual Arts Center, Nasjonalmuseet Oslo, Maramotti Collection, and Kunsthau Graz. Mirra has been a guest of the DAAD Kuenstlerprogramm (Berlin), Office of Contemporary Art Norway (Oslo), Stiftung Laurenz Haus (Basel), and Iaspis (Stockholm).

Galleria Giò Marconi will open the same night with the exhibitions: Lucie Stahl, *Chinese Medicine* and Fredrik Vaerslev, *Choppy Times*, Via Tadino 15, 20124, Milano, Opening 7-9 pm

For further information please contact Alessia Maiuri info@galleriaraffaellacortese.com

GALLERIA RAFFAELLA CORTESE

via a. stradella 1 - via a. stradella 7
20129 milano - italia
t +39 02 2043555
f +39 02 29533590
info@galleriaraffaellacortese.com
www.galleriaraffaellacortese.com

meris angioletti
silvia bächli
miroslaw balka
yael bartana
karla black
barbara bloom
alejandro cesarco

keren cytter
michael fliri
jitka hanzlovà
roni horn
joan jonas
william e. jones
kimsooja

zoe leonard
anna maria maiolino
marcello maloberti
daria martin
ana mendieta
helen mirra
mathilde rosier

martha rosler
kiki smith
jana sterbak
jessica stockholder
james welling
t. j. wilcox