

The Golden Shuffle
Brydee Rood and Matthew Crookes
26 August – 23 September

Gallery Two

Brydee Rood and Matthew Crookes are interested in the low status attached to certain - quite costly to produce - materials and in ways that these materials can be redeemed and re-ascribed with value.

Brydee Rood uses materials and objects, which originate as fossil fuels, and finds new imagery and significance in them, perhaps a cry of protest or a need for atonement. There is a meditation on the culture of waste, and indeed the necessity for continued and increasing superfluity in consumer culture.

Rood's use of medical waste bags, draws grotesque associations with the disposal of infectious, cancerous and bodily connected waste; evoking one's personal materiality within the processes of a 'material' world and lingering on a temporary and disposable life through the ephemeral qualities of the installation.

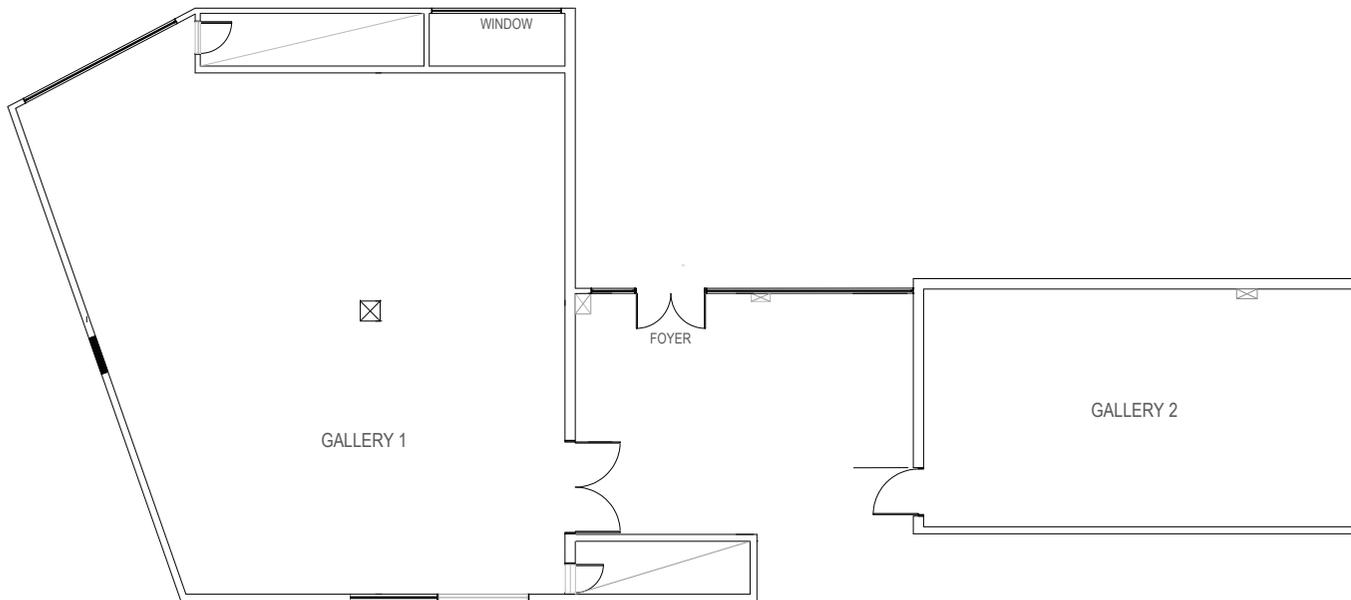
Matthew Crookes' floor-based small amulet-like objects are created from cheap materials, often sourced from the \$2 shop. They generate a gaudy imitation of opulence, a cumulative effort to find significance in detritus and rejection. This rejected and – sometimes repulsive – nature of the materials, the search for beauty and significance in things usually considered waste, is the intersection of these works and the motivating idea for this exhibition.

There is also a spiritual dimension to this work; encapsulated in the idea of redemption, it is shown in the musical element of the bells and in the transformation of the space to create a chapel-like aura. The yellow filtered light and the honey-and-gold-leaf gilded door handle, which is a nod to art shaman Joseph Beuys, create a sense of transformation and passage from one state to another - both materially and spiritually.

Acknowledging the oil-based plastic material and the cheap paper made into precious objects, *The Golden Shuffle* addresses the contradictions and pervasiveness of consumption and polluting industries within our lives; and the difficulties, for those who wish to reduce their own environmental impact in reconciling this fact.

Brydee Rood *The Golden Shuffle*, 2011. Tinted adhesive vinyl, plastic biohazard waste bags, builders line, bells

Matthew Crookes *The Golden Shuffle*, 2011. Paper foil, honey, gold leaf



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