

GREENE NAFTALI

John Knight a work *in situ*, 2015

Garden Floor

Greene Naftali is pleased to announce its second solo exhibition by Los Angeles–based artist John Knight. The current exhibition constitutes a brief history of Knight’s media practice, and represents a set of the artist’s ongoing concerns. Through his excavations of seemingly benign subject matter, Knight demonstrates the subtlety with which various sources of power are enforced.

Erasure:

Advertising copy and typography are lifted from 1970s editions of the *Los Angeles Times* real estate supplement. The phrases—“Easy Elegance”; “Limited edition luxury”; “LIVE BIG”—maintain their carriage of aspiration in absence of a visual referent, establishing the lack of a natural relationship between suburbanization and its promise.

Occupation:

A young girl reciting the conjugation of the verb *crier*, not in French, but in the indigenous language Breton. As the girl pronounces the conjugation of the Breton *huchal*, the arbitrariness of the hierarchy between official and vernacular language is revealed.

Displacement:

A video camera is pointed toward a corner of a room, which feeds in a closed circuit to a monitor in an adjacent corner. The work flatly delivers the mechanism of uprooting across a neutral field.

Disclosure:

A filmic narrative parodically postures as a transcription of clandestine notes, presenting its content in dated entries and suspenseful language. Yet the presentation, in fact, details a chronology of events surrounding the artist’s nightly activities in a lithography workshop.

Dissemination:

A commercial spot, produced for the Flanders evening news, promotes the agricultural product that attracts the county’s guest-worker population, the delicious apple. A luxurious portrayal of the fruit unfolds to a soundtrack of a Gregorian chant and the whispers of several guest-worker languages.

Please visit www.greenenaftaligallery.com for more information.