LUMPEN: AN INSTALLATION BY JULIA COUZENS AND ELLEN VAN FLEET

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO

ROBERT ELSE GALLERY / KADEMA HALL

MARCH 9 - APRIL 16, 2015

OPENING RECEPTION: THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015 / 5:00-8:00 PM / KADEMA HALL / ROBERT ELSE GALLERY

LECTURES BY ELLEN VAN FLEET AND JULIA COUZENS: THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2015 / 6:30-8:00 PM / MARIPOSA HALL ROOM 1001

Visitors to LUMPEN experience the art gallery as theater: a stage on which two large, equal and different masses sit in silent dialogue. There, a place prepared by Julia Couzens and Ellen Van Fleet, viewers may feel themselves becoming part of the installation and the experience of LUMPEN as they encounter the sculptures, the space of the gallery, and the physical presence of other people. The sculptures, fabricated in the artists’ studios and in the gallery from found and scavenged material, recall the innovative process artworks that Van Fleet made in the sixties and seventies out of disposable, non-precious materials, and extend Couzens’ dramatic sculpture series of “bundles,” her “three-dimensional objects of visual static.” The installation title, LUMPEN, with its reference to underclass status, ironically affirms the offbeat form, materials and attitude of the artwork. Two artists, two unique sculptures, each made by hand and positioned relationally in a conversation visitors may engage with and discover, as they will, an affecting art event of another kind.

Curated by Elaine O’Brien. The Art Department is grateful to the artists and to Associated Students Inc.

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